

CREATURES
ON THE LOOSE

MARVEL COMICS GROUP™

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CREATURES

ON THE LOOSE!

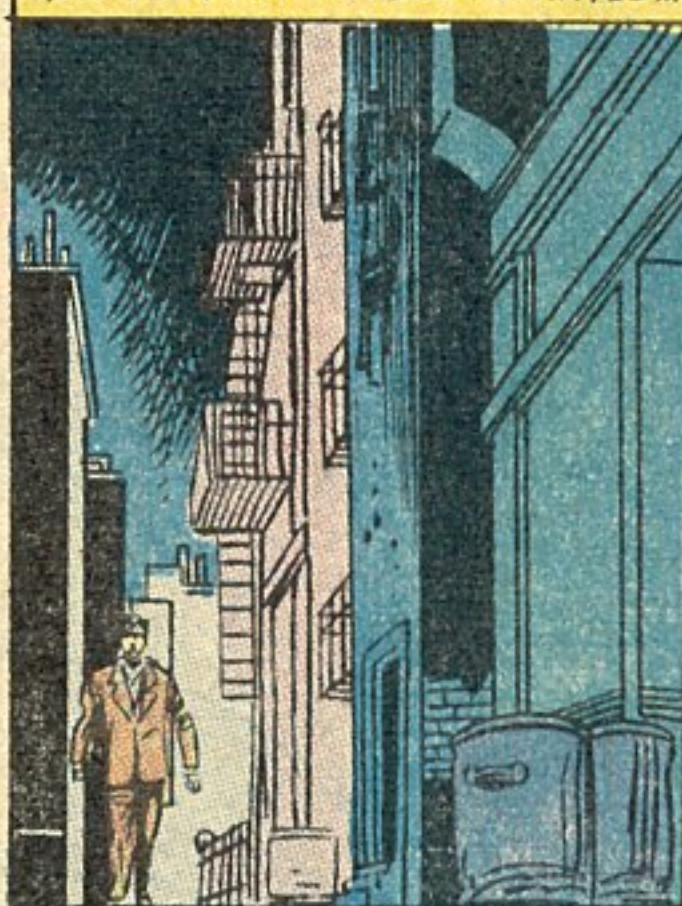
GULLIVAR JONES...
WARRIOR
OF MARS!



HARSH DECEMBER WIND: YET SOMEHOW STRANGELY REFRESHING, CLEANSING EVEN, AS I PULLED ON MY JACKET... STRODE TIGHT-LIPPED FROM THE OFFICERS' CLUB FOR THE FINAL TIME...



THE CORPS WAS PART OF MY PAST NOW. THERE WOULD BE NO MORE KILLING... NO MORE RISKING THE ONLY LIFE I HAD IN A WAR NOBODY WANTED...



THEN, SUDDENLY: A NIMBUS OF COLD, HARD LIGHT BEHIND ME... A SOUL-CHILLING VOICE AT MY SHOULDER...

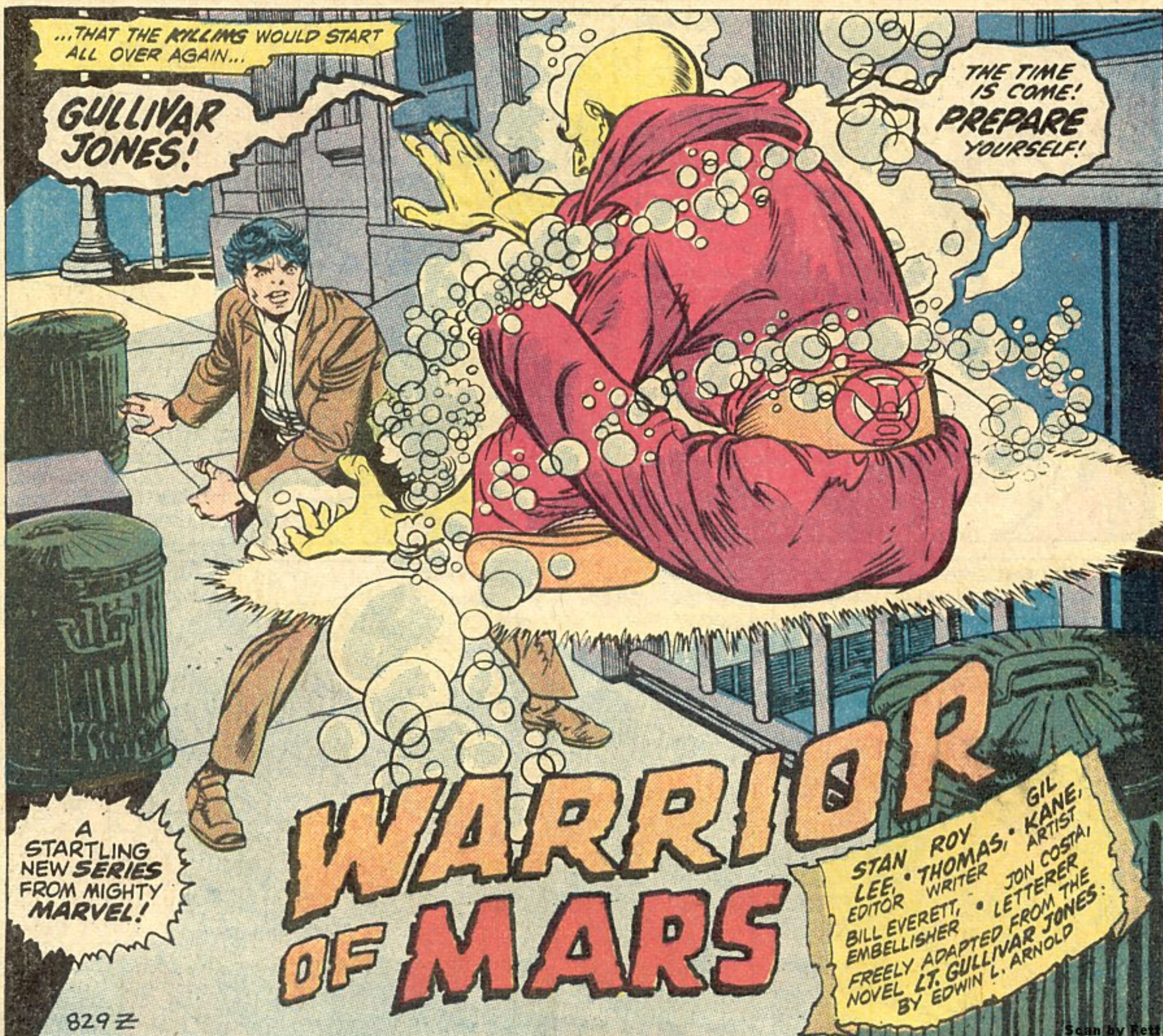


AND I KNEW... SOMEHOW, I KNEW...

...THAT THE KILLING WOULD START ALL OVER AGAIN...

GULLIVAR JONES!

THE TIME IS COME! PREPARE YOURSELF!



A STARTLING NEW SERIES FROM MIGHTY MARVEL!

WARRIOR OF MARS

STAN LEE, EDITOR
ROY THOMAS, WRITER
BILL EVERETT, EMBELLISHER
GIL KANE, ARTIST
JON COSTA, LETTERER
FREELY ADAPTED FROM THE NOVEL BY LT. GULLIVAR JONES BY EDWIN L. ARNOLD

829 Z

Scan by Kett



DRAW NEARER, TERRAN. DO NOT BE AFRAID...

AFRAID? MISTER, I WAS AT KHESAHN WHEN THE SHELLING STARTED!

IT TAKES MORE THAN GOLD SKIN AND A PHONY MAGIC STUNT TO IMPRESS ME!

WHO ARE YOU, ANY-HOW? WHERE DID YOU--?



AND THEN, A CHILL RAKED MY SPINE... A CHILL NOT BORN OF WINTRY BLASTS...

I AM LU-POV... AND I HAVE JOURNEYED MILES AND EONS TO SUMMON YOU...



...FROM THE PLANET YOU KNOW AS... MARS!

HUH? WHO'RE YOU TRYING TO KID?

MARS IS A LIFELESS DESERT. THE MARINER PROBES SHOWED...



I SAID... THAT I HAD JOURNEYED- MILES AND EONS, GULLIVAR JONES.

BUT NOW... MY TIME IS SHORT. I...

WHAT'S WRONG, OLD MAN?



YOU DO LOOK IN A BAD WAY.

LOOK, IF IT'S MONEY YOU NEED, I'LL--

I CAME NOT TO TAKE... BUT TO GIVE...

HERE! THE... AMULET OF UNDERSTANDING ...MUST BE YOURS...

WORDS CAME HARDER TO HIM NOW... SHORT GASPS... THE GOLDEN MEDALLION TORN FROM HIS WRINKLED NECK...

...AS THE GLOWING NIMBUS WAFTED DOWN TO STREET LEVEL...



AND, WITH A CORDING OF THROAT MUSCLES... I SCRAMBLED ONTO IT...

TAKE IT... AND SWEAR TO ME... YOU'LL DO WHAT MUST BE DONE...

BUT--I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE--

NO USE. HE'S... DEAD!



WELL--GUESS I'D BETTER-- GOOD LORD! THE THING IS RISING AGAIN...

...TAKING ME WITH IT... BUT NOT THE OLD GUY!



ALMOST AS IF... IT WAS FINISHED WITH HIM...

...BUT NOT WITH ME!

I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TRULY I SPOKE...

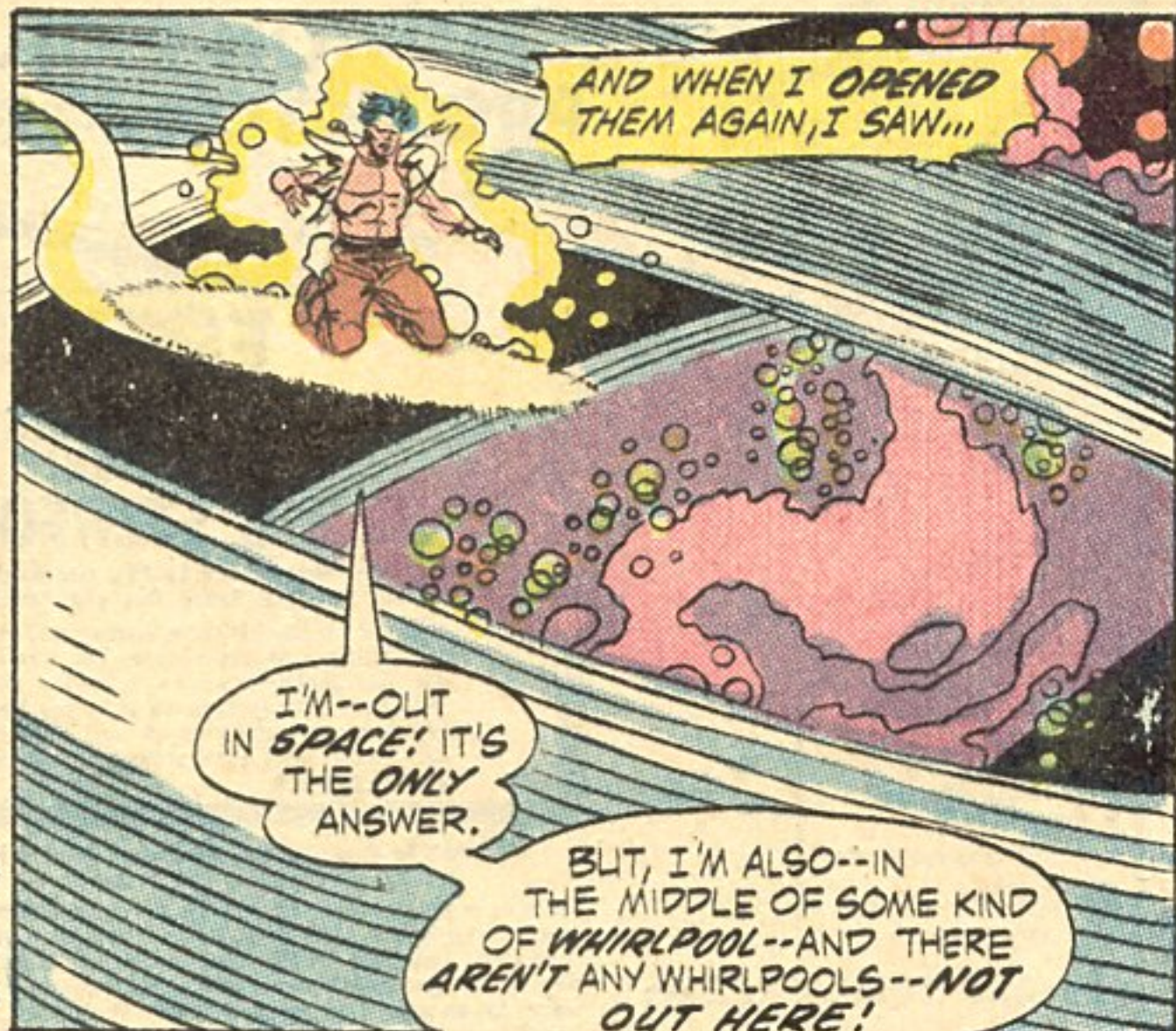


FOR, ON THE INSTANT...

EARTH...
FALLING AWAY
BELOW ME...
JUST LIKE
THAT!

I'VE GOT TO
BE DREAMING.
I'VE GOT TO!

INSTINCTIVELY,
I SHUT MY EYES...
BUT STILL A WHIP-
LASH WIND TORE THE
VERY CLOTHES FROM
MY BODY...



AND WHEN I OPENED
THEM AGAIN, I SAW...

I'M--OUT
IN SPACE! IT'S
THE ONLY
ANSWER.

BUT, I'M ALSO--IN
THE MIDDLE OF SOME KIND
OF WHIRLPOOL--AND THERE
AREN'T ANY WHIRLPOOLS--NOT
OUT HERE!



YET, THERE IT WAS... AND ONLY MY
MYSTERIOUS LIGHT-NIMBUS SHIELDED
ME, AS IT PLUNGED INTO THAT
BLINDING MAELSTROM...!

HOW LONG
I REMAINED THUS...
A PASSING SECOND,
A MILLION YEARS...
I HAD NO WAY
OF KNOWING...

NOR COULD I
TELL THEM
THAT, DURING
THE JOURNEY,
MY HAIR
TURNED
WHITE...
FROM
FEAR, OR...?



THEN,
WITHOUT
WARNING...

MARS! THAT REDNESS--
IT'S GOT TO BE MARS!

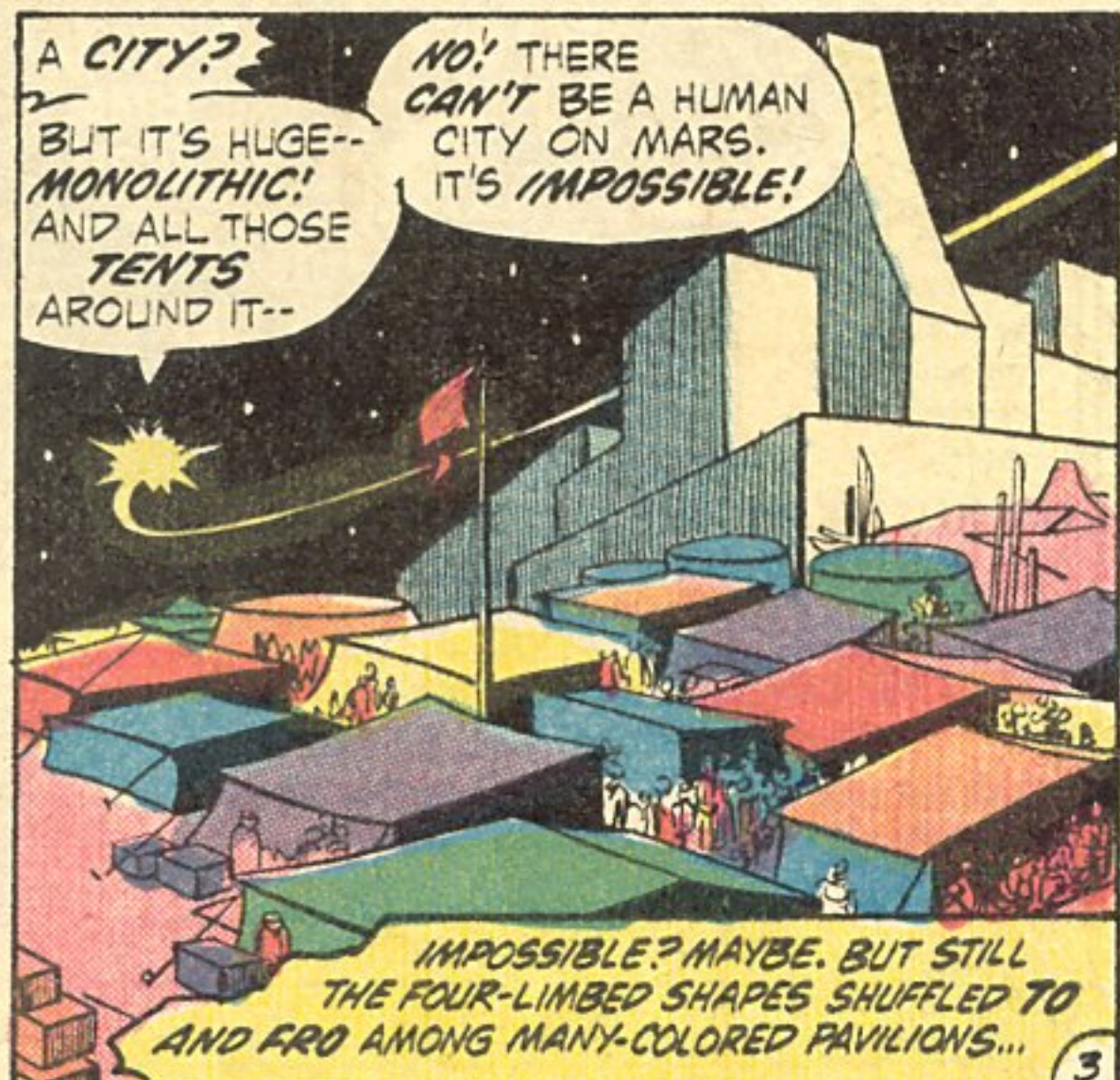
BUT, I'M HEADING FOR
IT SO FAST--NO DE-
CELERATION--I'LL NEVER--



HUH? THE
DISC SUDDENLY
SLOWED DOWN--
AND I DIDN'T
FEEL A THING.

NO
MOMENTUM--
NO PAIN--
NOTHING!

HEY!
WHAT THE
DEVIL IS
THAT UP
AHEAD?



A CITY?
BUT IT'S HUGE--
MONOLITHIC!
AND ALL THOSE
TENTS
AROUND IT--

NO! THERE
CAN'T BE A HUMAN
CITY ON MARS.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

IMPOSSIBLE? MAYBE. BUT STILL
THE FOUR-LIMBED SHAPES SHUFFLED TO
AND FRO AMONG MANY-COLORED PAVILIONS...

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

...THOUGH **SOME** OF THEM, I'D SOON LEARN, WERE **MORE HUMAN THAN OTHERS...**

YOUR **TRIBUTE-PAYMENTS** TO US ARE ALL IN ORDER, PRINCE HATH.

ONLY **ONE** ITEM REMAINS...

OH, YES... I NEARLY **FORGOT...**

ONE OF OUR MOST BEAUTEIOUS MAIDENS, TO BE YOUR WARLORD'S **QUEEN** FOR THE NEXT YEAR. **CHOOSE** FROM AMONG OUR LOVELIES, AS IS THE **CUSTOM**.

OUR LORD **AR-HAP** HAS **HIMSELF** CHOSEN HIS NEXT BRIDE...

... SHE WHO RECLINES AT YOUR **SIDE...**

...THE **PRINCESS HERU!**

NO!

MY PRINCE... MY **BE-TROTHED...** SURELY YOU'LL NOT **LET** THESE BARBARIANS...

IT IS... WRITTEN IN THE **TREATY**, MY DEAR, HERU.

THEN... WE GO.

HELP ME, HATH! **HELP ME!**

WOULD YOU HAVE ME RISK **SETHIAN BLOOD...** FOR YOUR SAKE, ALONE?

SILENCE, PRINCESS-- LEST YOU BRING **DIS-HONOR** UPON YOUR PEOPLE!

YOU **HEARD** HIM, WOMAN. NOW **COME.**

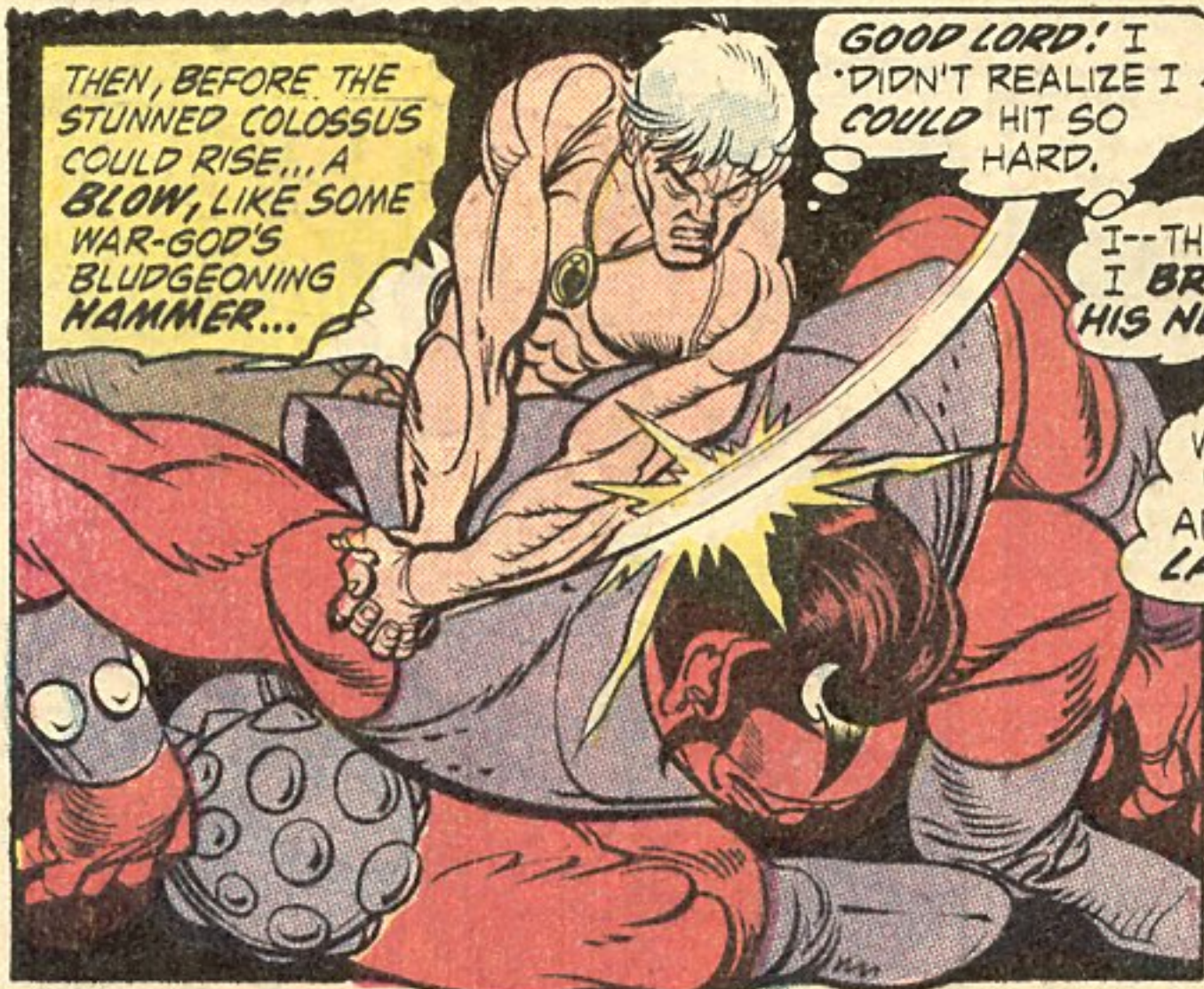
AR-HAP IS EAGER TO **MEET** YOU.

A GOLDEN **GODDESS** WITH GREEN HAIR... AND LOBSTER-RED **GIANTS**, WITH TAILS LIKE SNAKES!

DON'T KNOW HOW I **UNDERSTOOD** THE FEW WORDS I CAUGHT...

BUT THE LADY'S DEFINITELY BEING **KIDNAPED**, AND THE ONLY GUY IN A POSITION TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT--

...IS **GULLIVAR JONES!**



THEN, BEFORE THE STUNNED COLOSSUS COULD RISE... A BLOW, LIKE SOME WAR-GOD'S BLUDGEONING HAMMER...

GOOD LORD! I DIDN'T REALIZE I COULD HIT SO HARD.

I--THINK I BROKE HIS NECK!

WELL, I'LL WORRY ABOUT THAT LATER.



MARTIANS--OR WHATEVER YOU CALL YOURSELF--THAT'S ONE OF YOU THOSE MONSTERS ARE HAULING OFF.

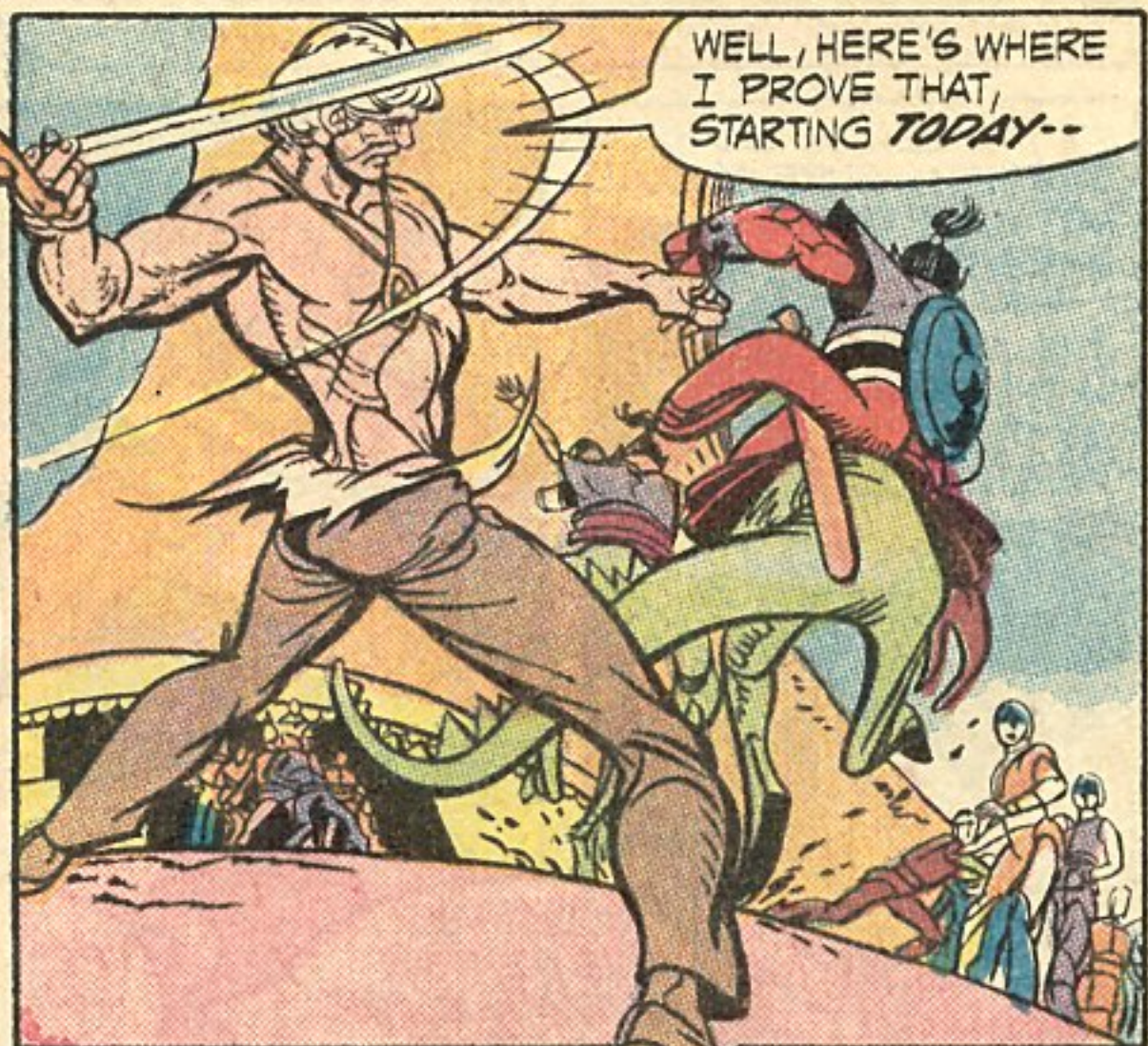
THERE'S ENOUGH OF YOU TO STOP THEM... IF YOU JUST TRY!



NOTHING!

NOTHING BUT WEAK-KNEED FEAR IN EVERY CRINGING FACE!

THE WHOLE GANG OF YOU--SCARED GUTLESS OF TWO OVERGROWN REDNECKS!



WELL, HERE'S WHERE I PROVE THAT, STARTING TODAY--



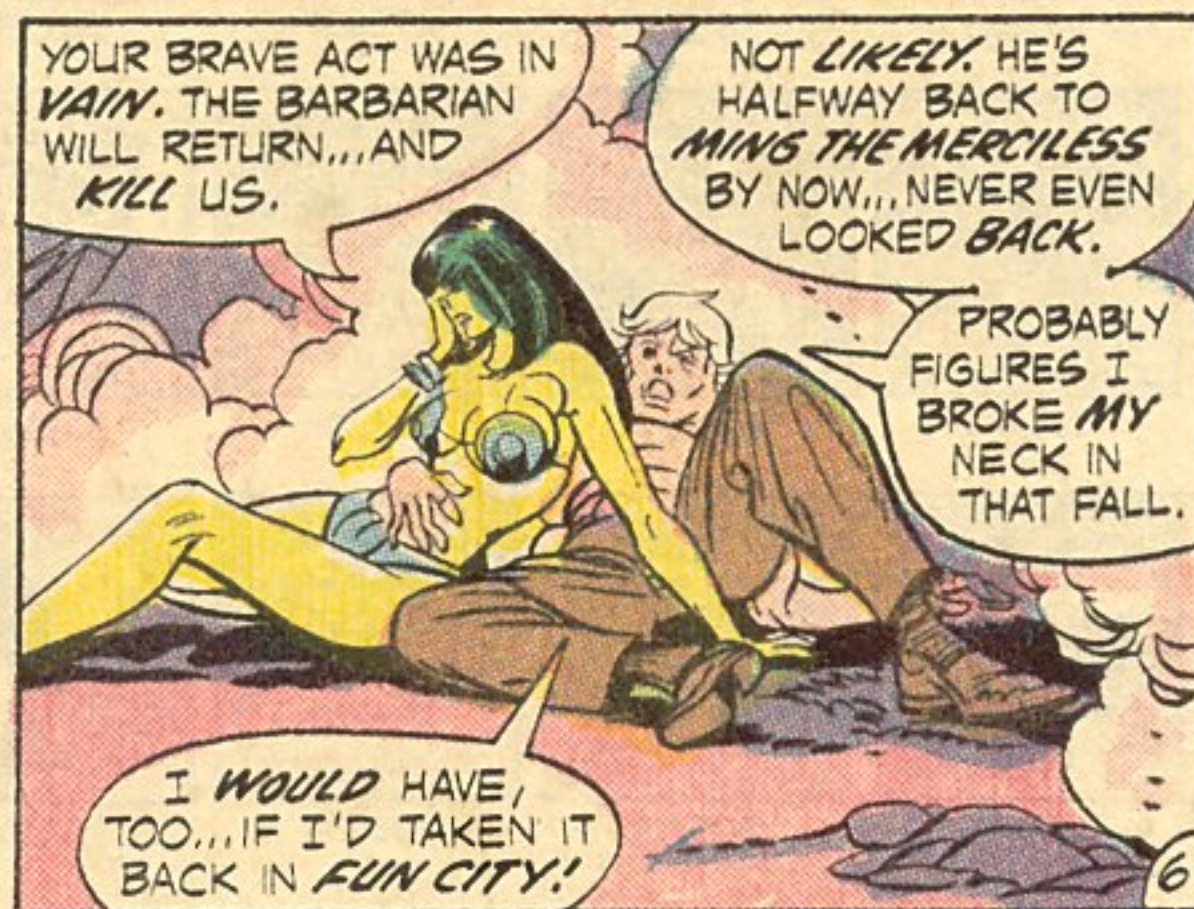
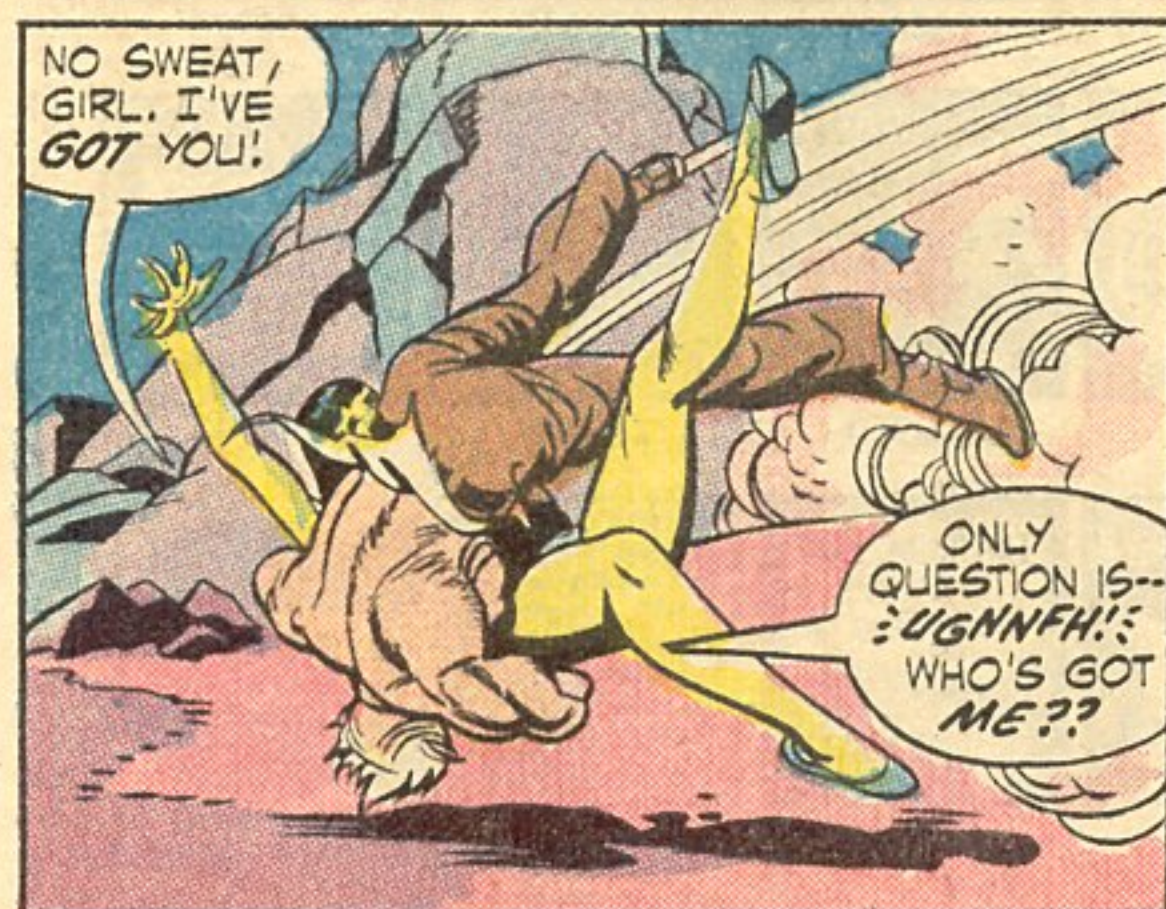
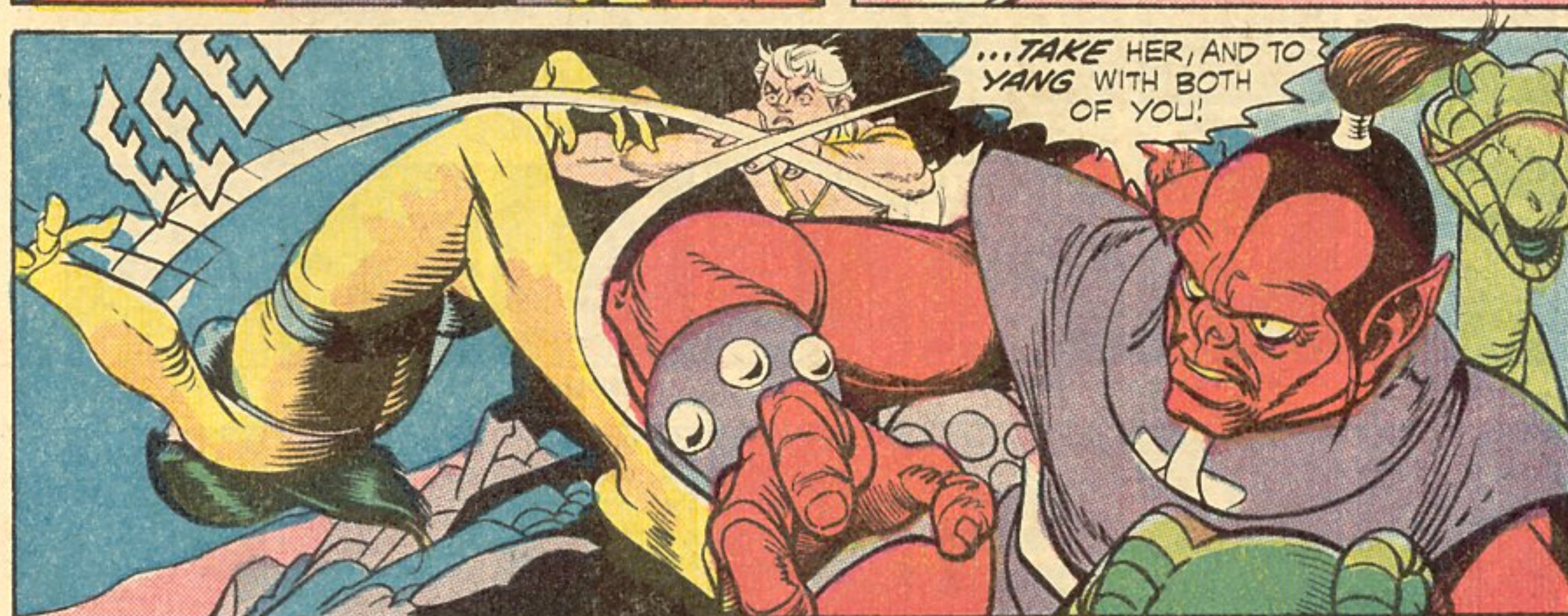
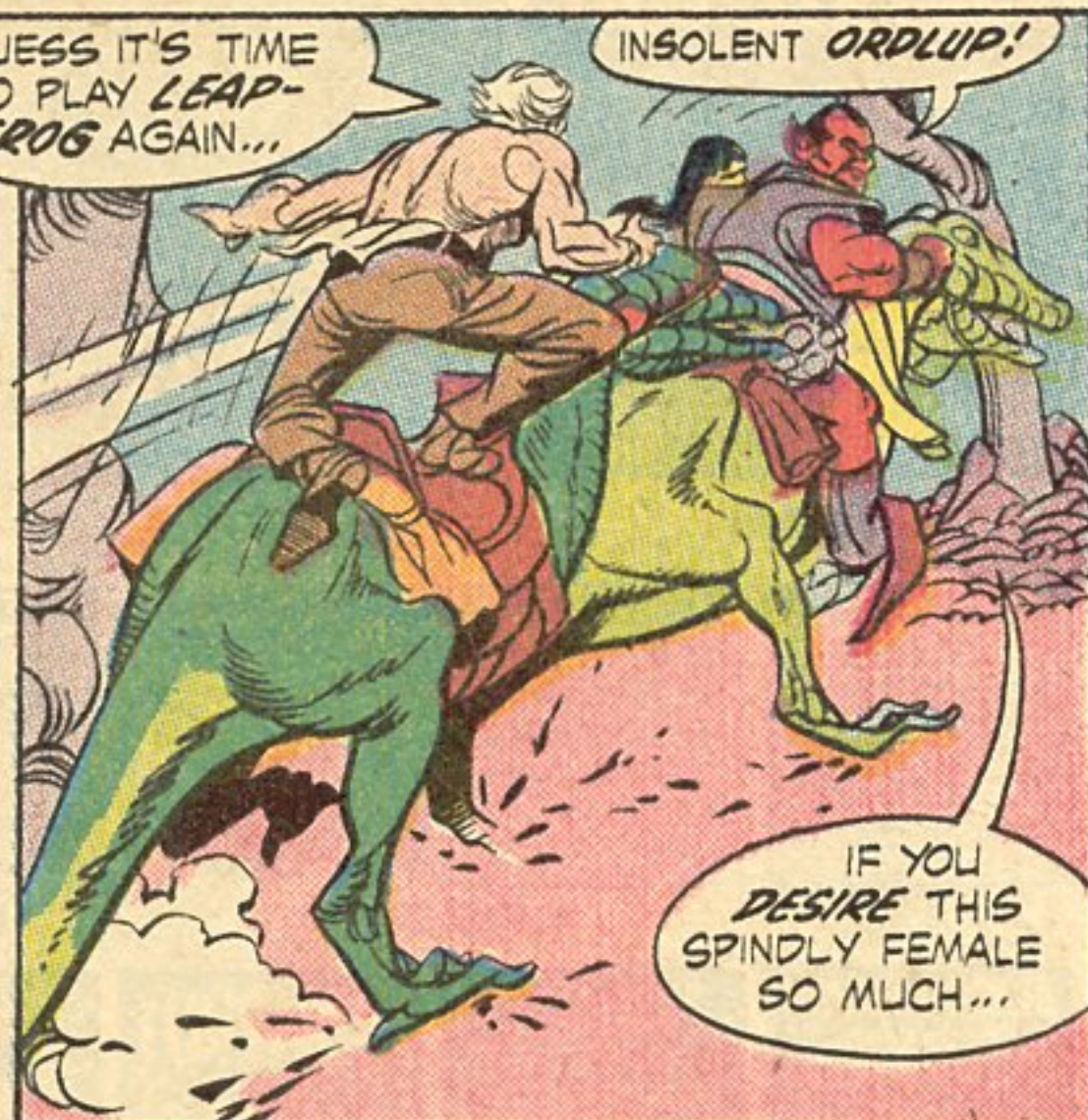
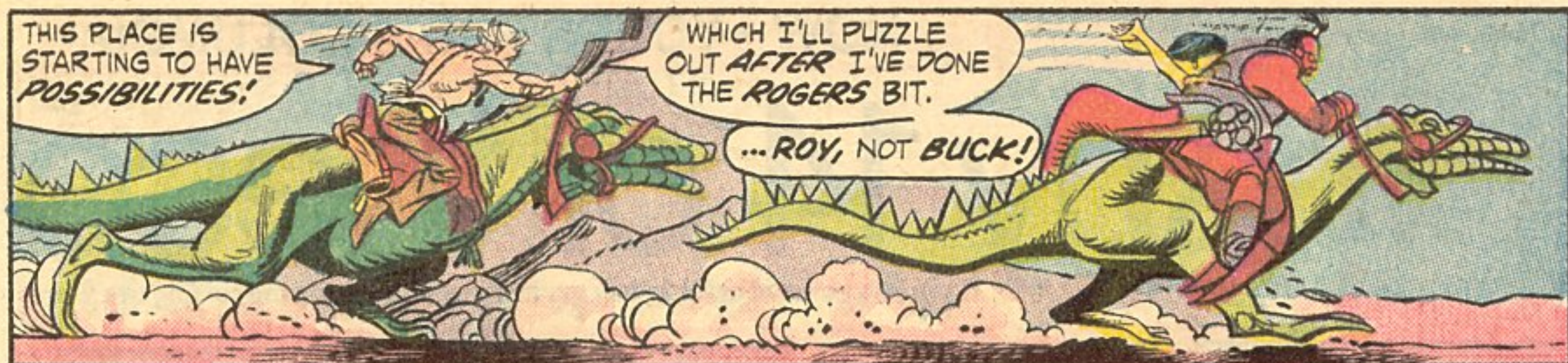
--IT'S THE LOBSTER-BACKS' TURN TO FEAR!

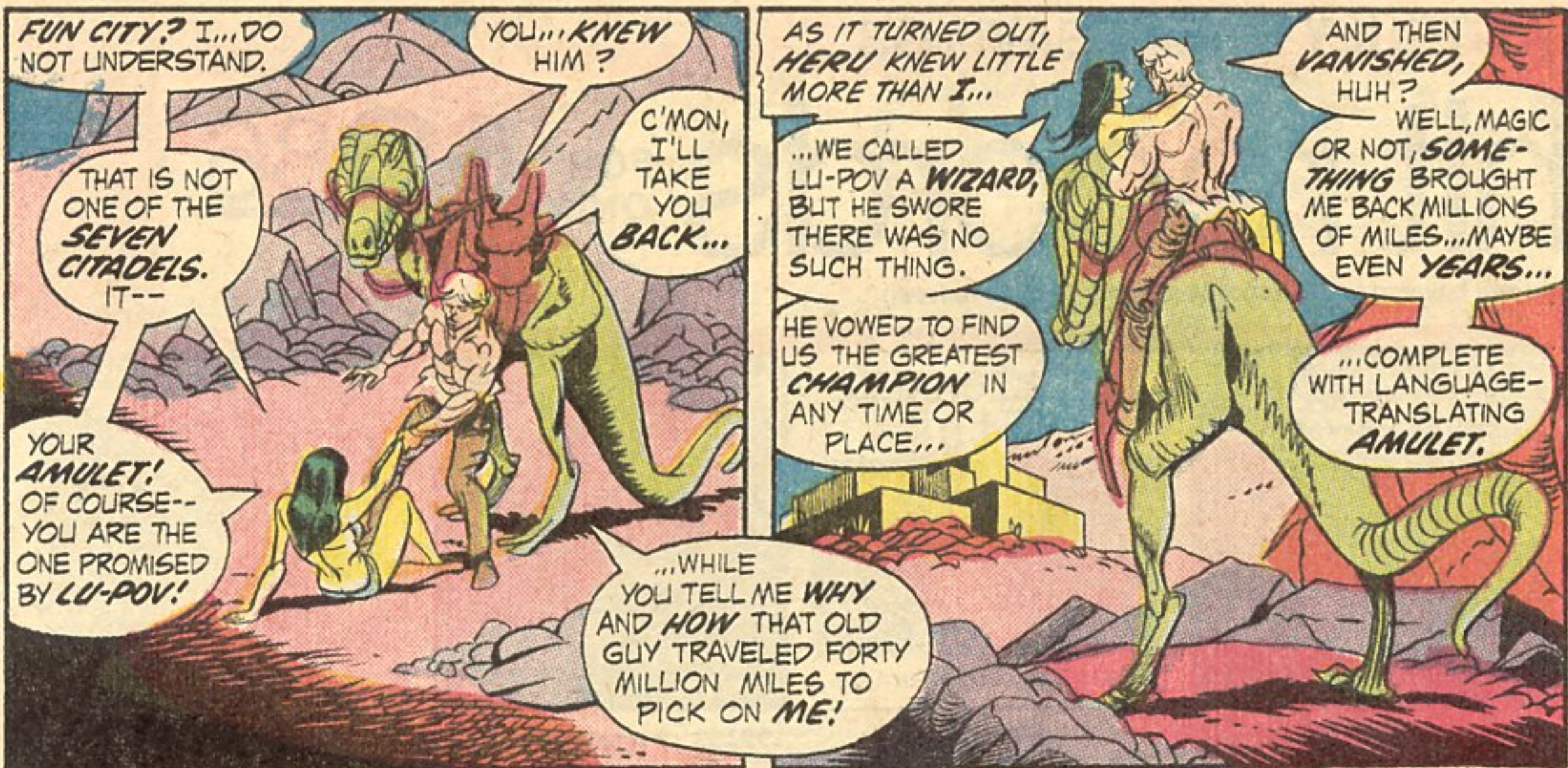


SORRY, PAL, BUT I NEED OL' PAINT HERE MORE THAN YOU DO... NOW.

WHA--? I JUMPED FAR ENOUGH TO SET A RECORD BACK ON EARTH.

AND HERE, I DID IT... WITHOUT EVEN THINKING.





FUN CITY? I...DO NOT UNDERSTAND.

YOU...KNEW HIM?

C'MON, I'LL TAKE YOU BACK...

THAT IS NOT ONE OF THE SEVEN CITADELS. IT--

YOUR AMULET! OF COURSE-- YOU ARE THE ONE PROMISED BY LU-POV!

AS IT TURNED OUT, HERU KNEW LITTLE MORE THAN I...

...WE CALLED LU-POV A WIZARD, BUT HE SWORE THERE WAS NO SUCH THING.

HE VOWED TO FIND US THE GREATEST CHAMPION IN ANY TIME OR PLACE...

AND THEN VANISHED, HUH? WELL, MAGIC OR NOT, SOMETHING BROUGHT ME BACK MILLIONS OF MILES...MAYBE EVEN YEARS...

...COMPLETE WITH LANGUAGE-TRANSLATING AMULET.

...WHILE YOU TELL ME WHY AND HOW THAT OLD GUY TRAVELED FORTY MILLION MILES TO PICK ON ME!

BUT, WHATEVER HE WAS, THIS LU-POV GOOFED IF HE THOUGHT I WAS "MISTER RIGHT" TO HELP YOU AGAINST THE BARBARIANS.

MAYBE I PLAYED HERO-MAN BACK THERE... BUT I'VE HAD IT WITH WAR.

WHEN THE TIME COMES...YOU WILL FIGHT.

SO QUIETLY CONFIDENT WERE HER WORDS THAT I SPOKE NO MORE FOR THE MOMENT...AND SOON WE WERE AMONG THE TENTS AGAIN...

WHY ALL THE ACTIVITY OUT HERE, INSTEAD OF INSIDE THE CITY?

IS THIS SOME KIND OF...BAZAAR?

NO ONE LIVES IN THE CITY, FOOLISH MAN.

IT IS FORBIDDEN, BOTH TO US AND TO THE BARBARIANS.

OH? THEN WHY NO CHILDREN HERE--NO OLD PEOPLE--NO INVALIDS?

EVERYONE SEEMS ADULT AND HEALTHY--IF NOT PARTICULARLY BRAVE.

WE HITHER PEOPLE MATURE QUICKLY...

...AND RETAIN OUR YOUTHFUL VIGOR UNTIL, LIKE LU-POV, WE NEAR DEATH.

THEN, DRESSED IN OUR FINEST ROBES, WE ARE SET ADRIFT ON BARGES...

...DOWN YONDER RIVER OF THE DEAD...

...WHICH WINDS TO THE **LAND OF SNOW AND ICE**. BY THE WAY, WHAT IS YOUR **NAME**?

BELIEVE IT OR NOT... **GULLIVAR JONES**.

GUL-LI-VAR...

I LIKE YOU, **GUL-LI-VAR JONZ**.

AND I ENJOYED THE NEXT FEW **MARTIAN DAYS...**

...AS **HERU** TOLD ME **LEGENDS** HANDED DOWN OF HER CITY **SETH**, BUILT BY HER **GOLD-SKINNED FOREBEARS**.

ONLY **LU-POV** HAD REMEMBERED **HOW** IT WAS BUILT, OR WHY IT **FELL...**

...AND HE WAS **FOREVER GONE**.

YET, MOST OF ALL, I REVELED IN THE **TWIN-MOONED EVENINGS**, AS WE PROWLED ON **ORDLUP-BACK** OVER **HILLOCK AND DUNE...**

...STILL, IF YOUR **ANCESTORS** BUILT **SETH**, THEN SURELY **YOU** HITHER PEOPLE COULD--

PLEASE, **GUL-LI-VAR**,... MY HEAD **THROBS** FROM EXPLAINING OUR WORLD TO YOU.

CAN WE NOT SIMPLY BASK IN THE GLOW OF **NOOMA** AND **ELEESH**?

OKAY, **PRINCESS**,... YOU WIN.

THE **MAIN** THING I WANT TO KNOW, ANYHOW, I'VE BEEN TOO **CHICKEN** TO ASK.

IF **YOU'RE** A "**PRINCESS**", AND THAT CLOWN **HATH** IS A "**PRINCE**", THEN WHAT--I MEAN--

WE ARE FAR-DISTANT **COUSINS**.

HE WAS ALSO... MY **BETROTHED**.

WE WERE TO BE **WED**, FOR WE ARE TWO OF THE LAST OF THE TRUE **GOLDEN ONES...**

BUT HE **RENOUNCED** HIS CLAIM ON ME WHEN HE SURRENDERED ME TO THE MINIONS OF **AR-HAP**.

THAT'S WHAT I **HOPED** YOU'D SAY.

WHOA, BOY!

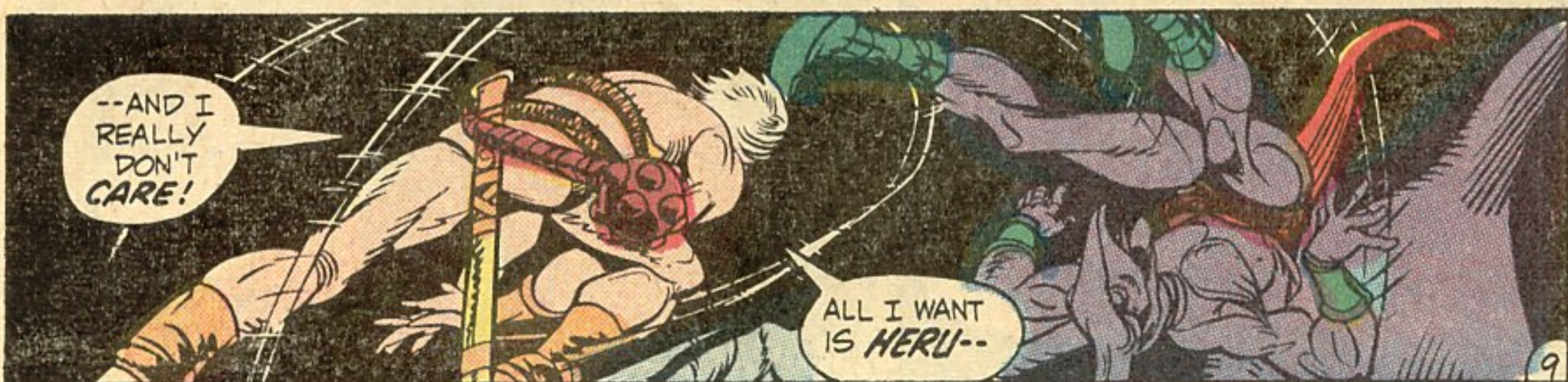
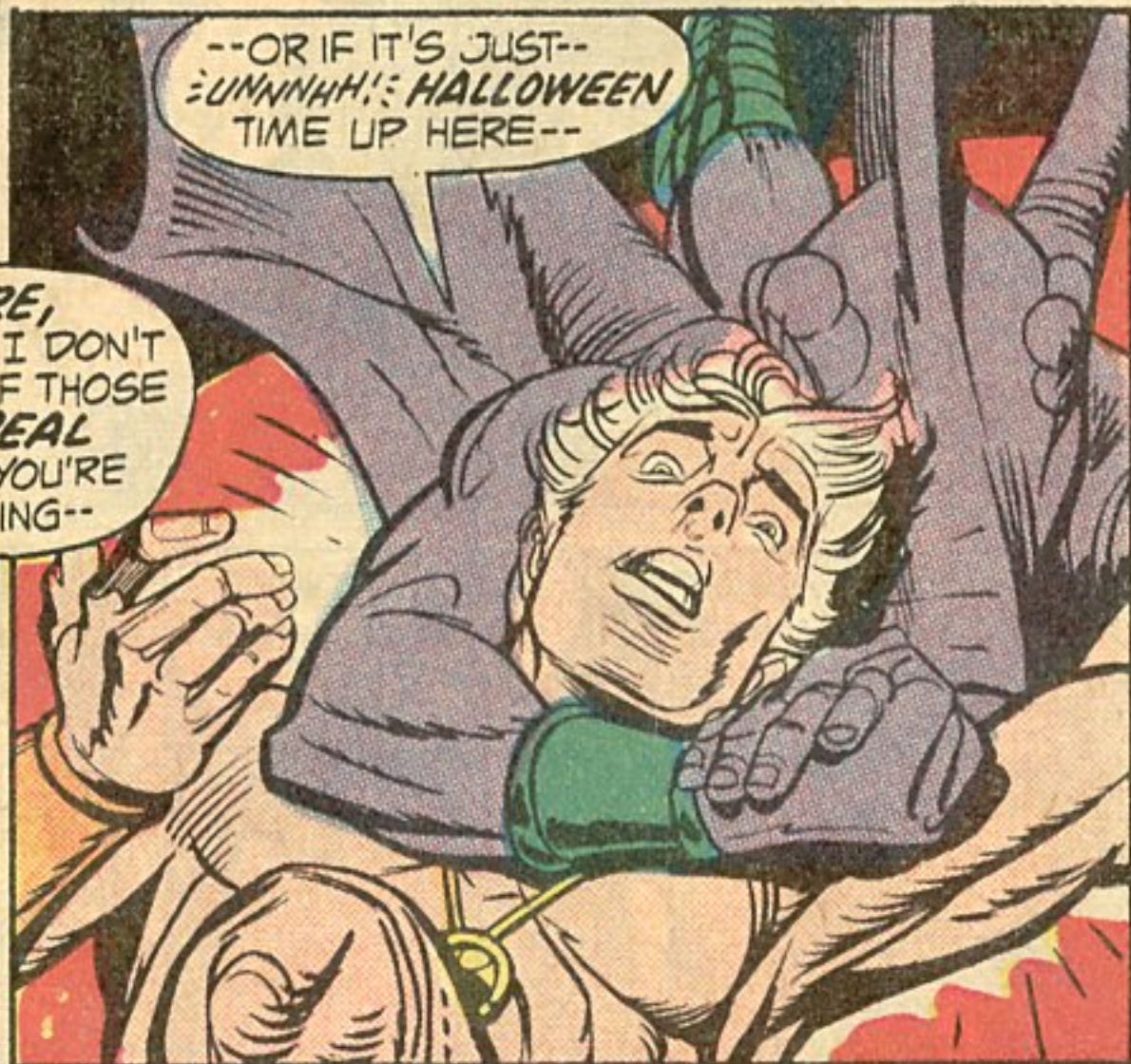
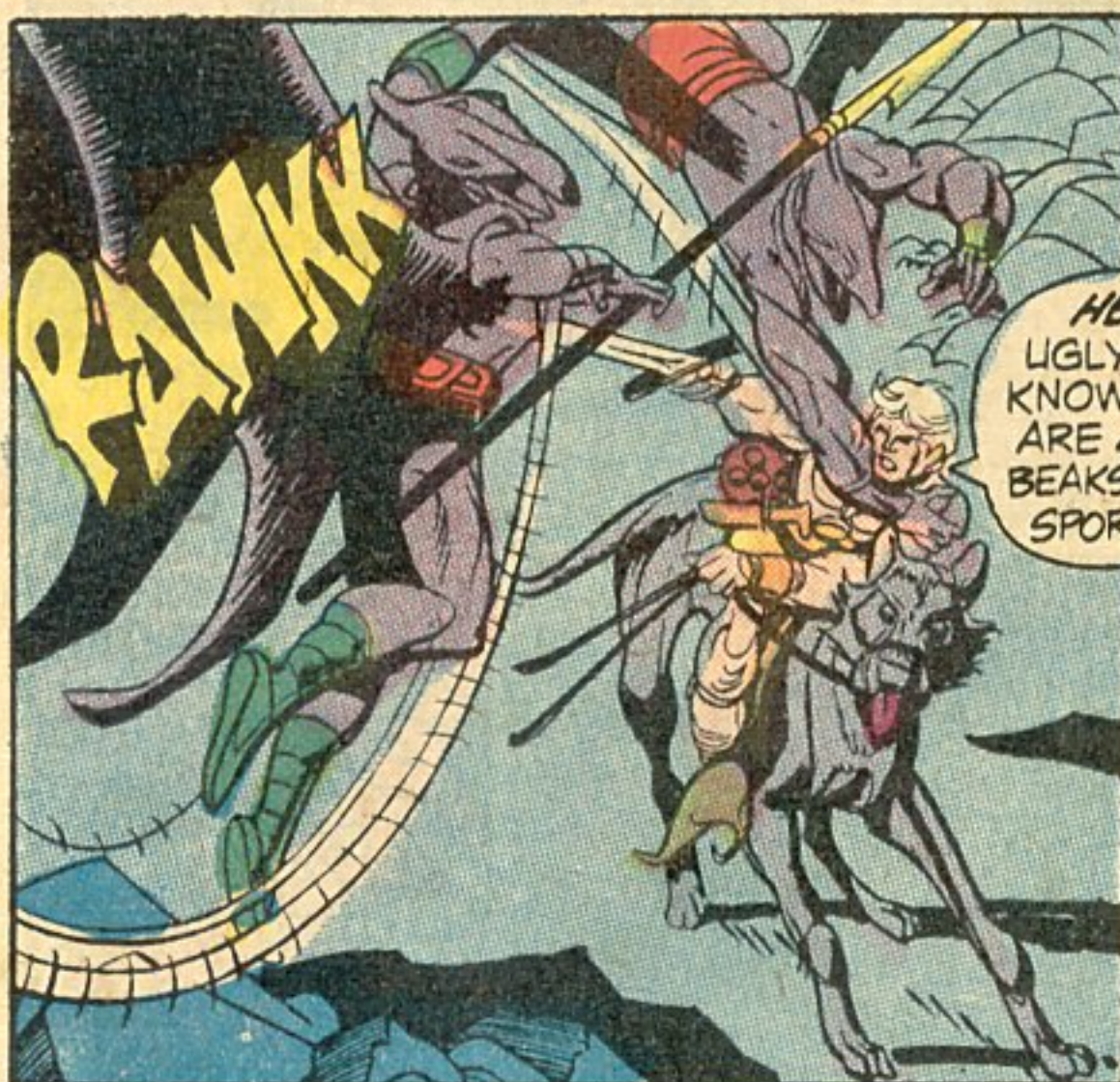
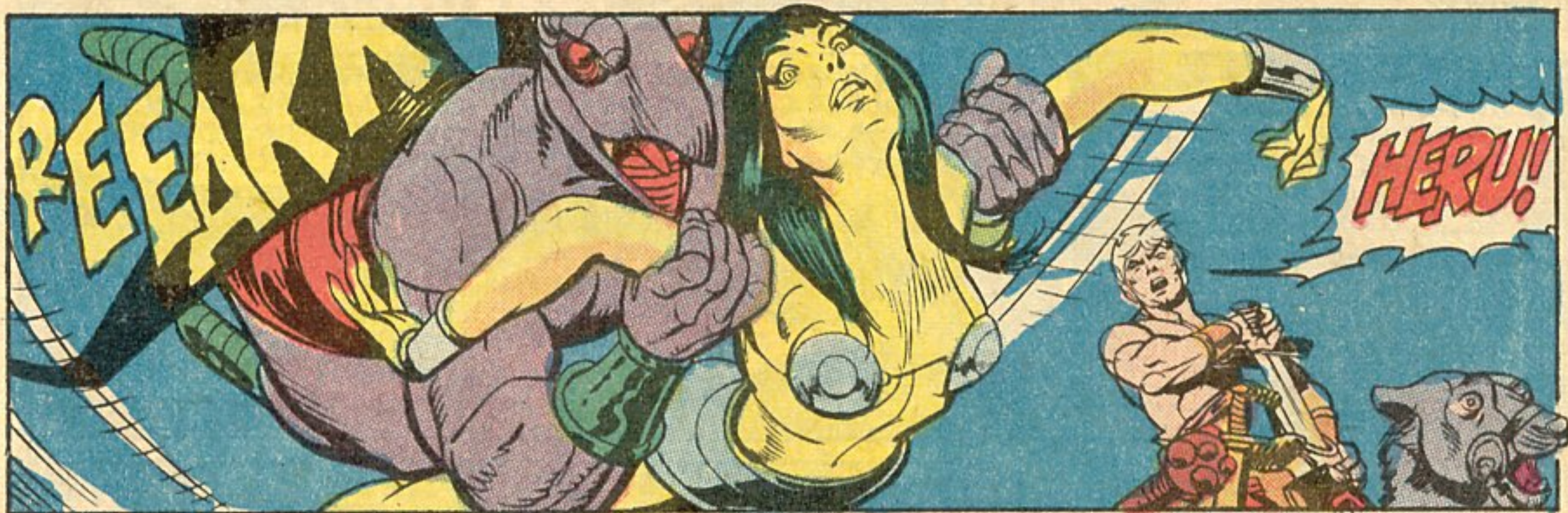
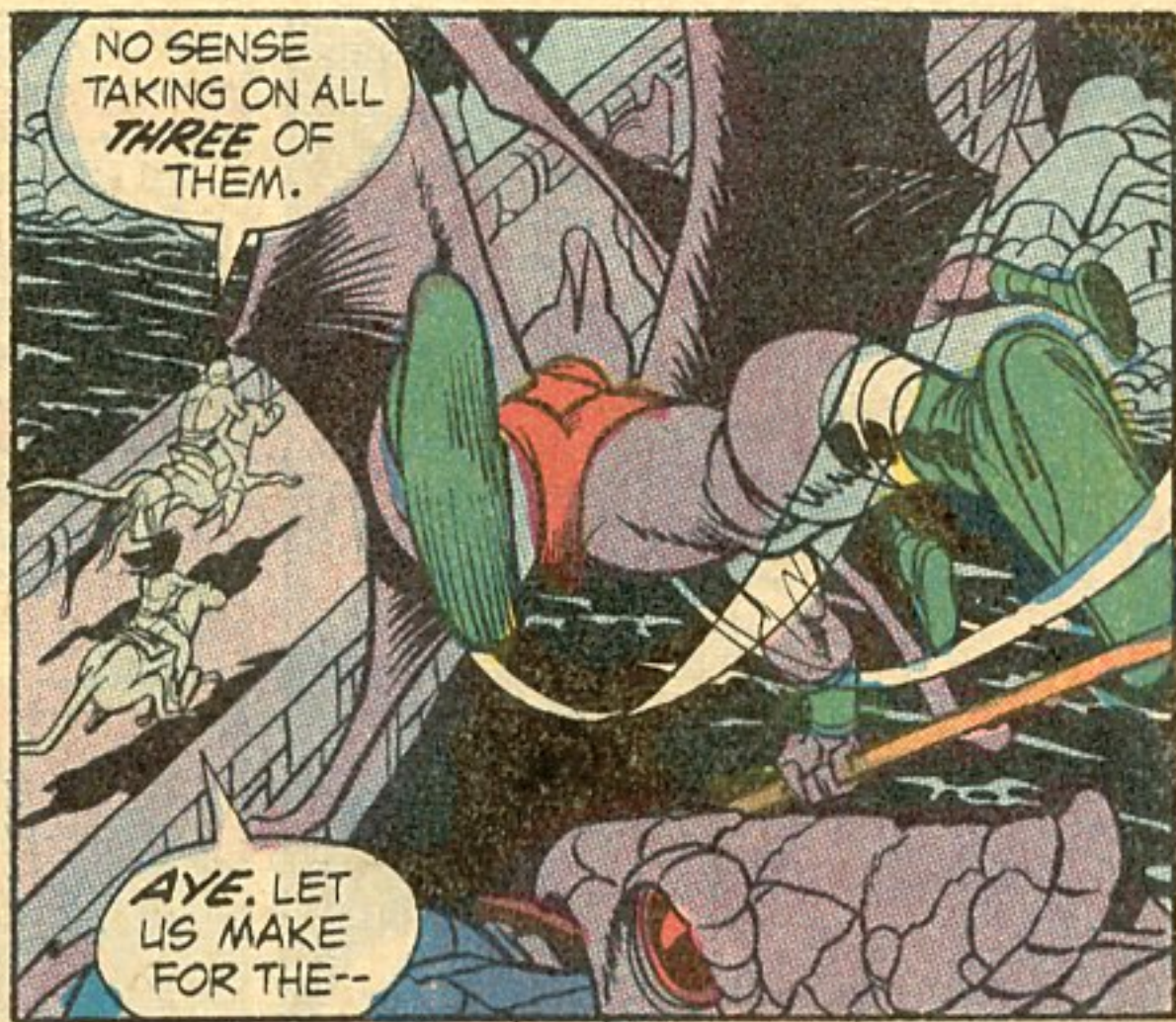
WHAT? IS THERE SOMETHING **ELSE** YOU WANT TO KNOW?

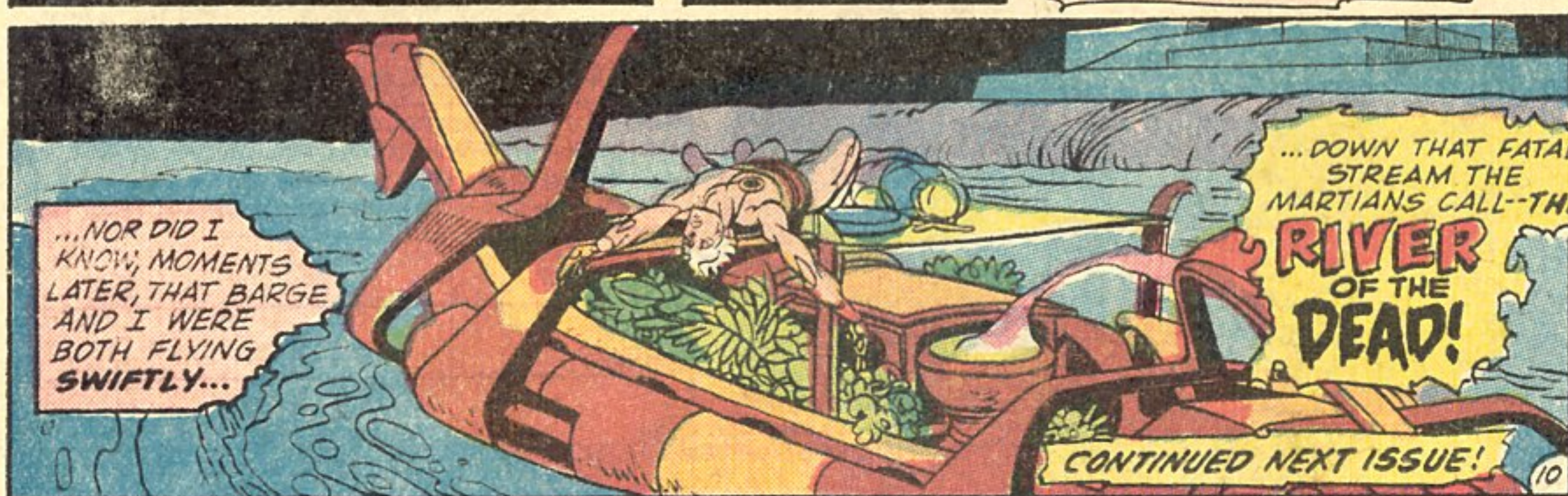
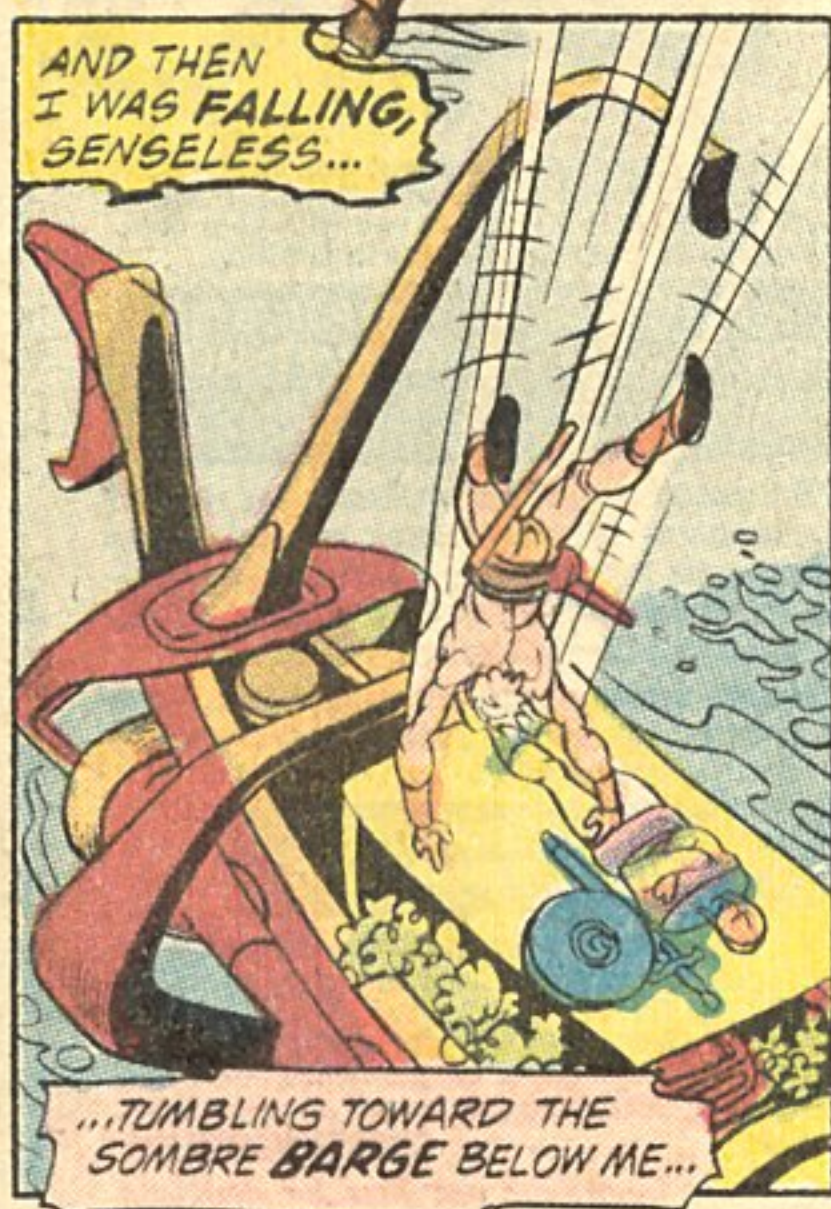
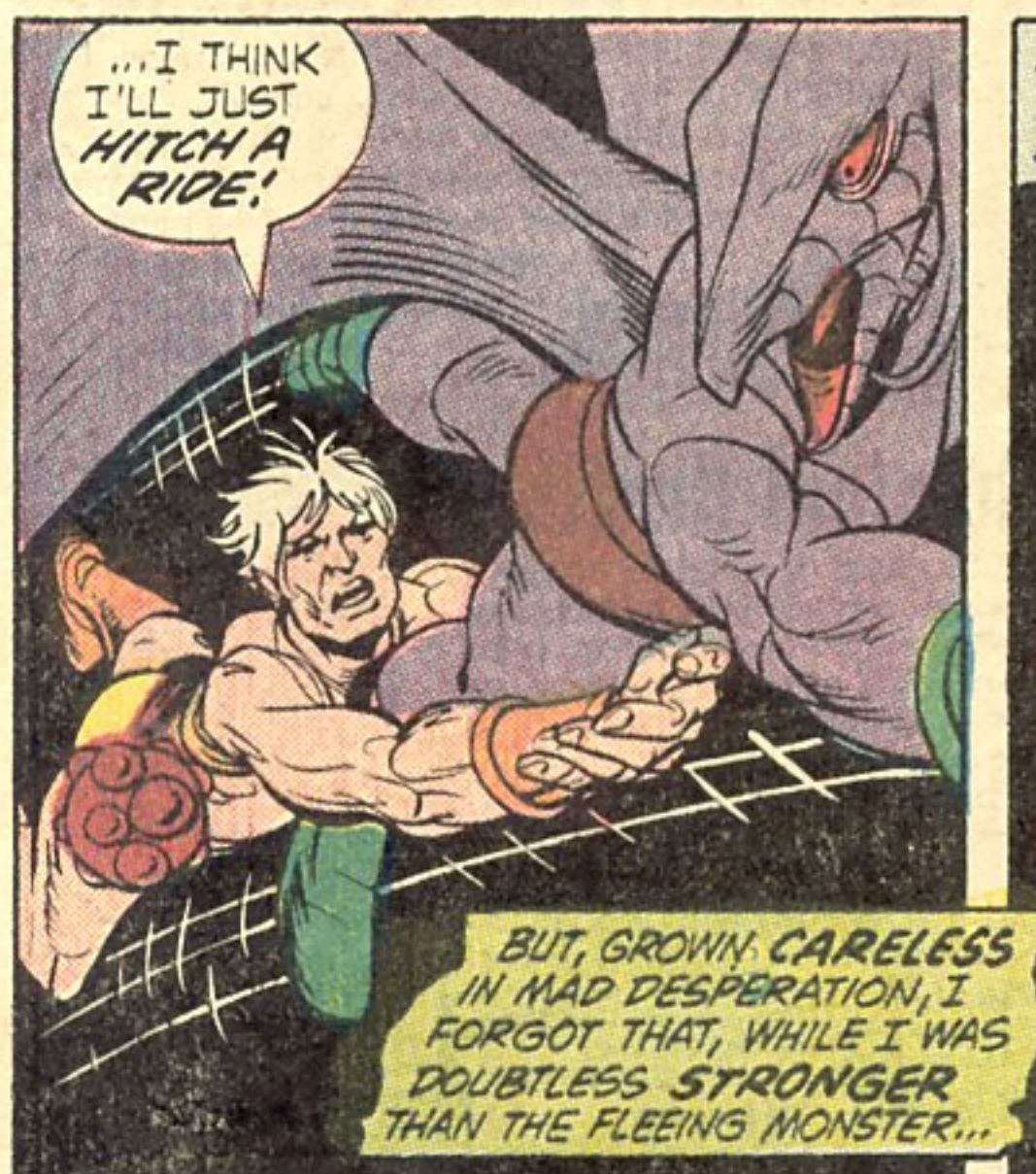
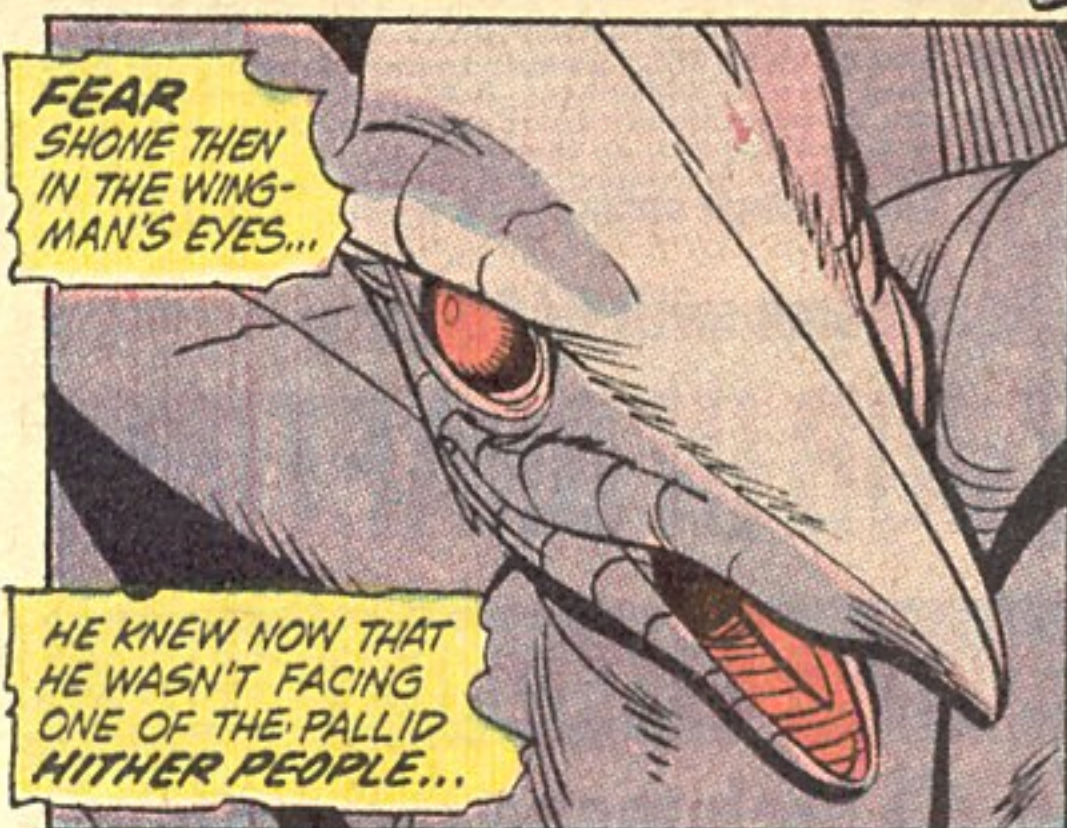
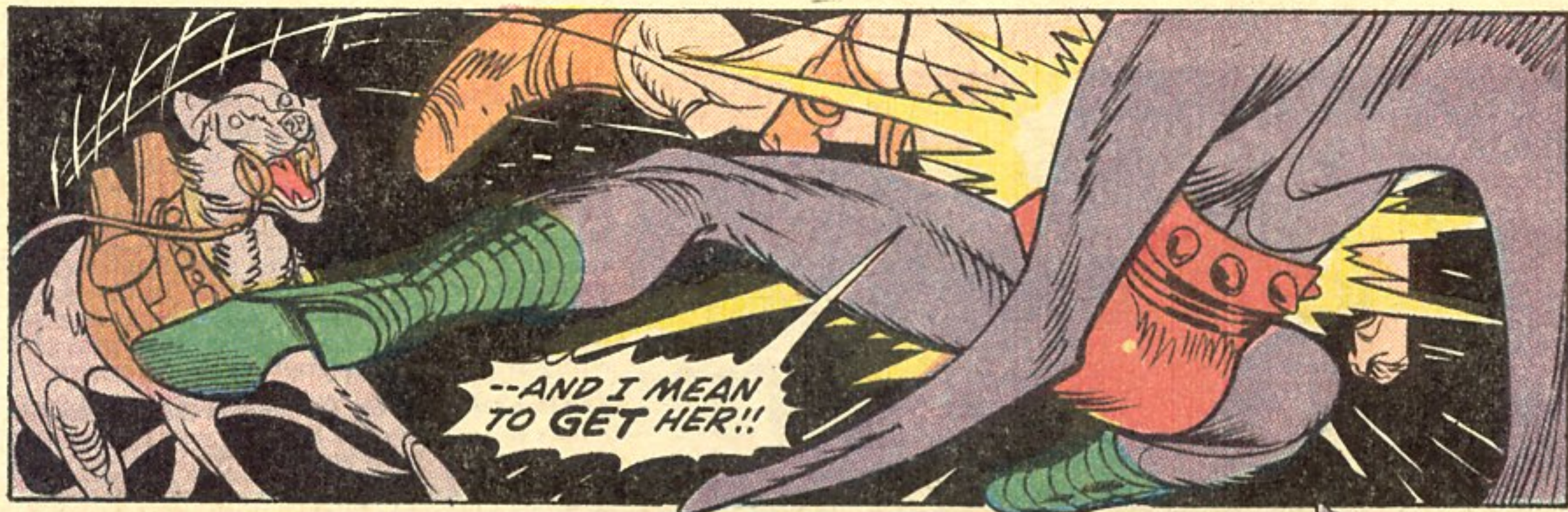
ONLY WHAT **YOU'LL** DO, **PRINCESS...**

...WHEN I DO... **THIS...!**

BUT, I WAS DESTINED **NOT** TO KNOW...FOR, THE NEXT INSTANT...







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CREATURES

ON THE LOOSE!™



GULLIVAR JONES, WARRIOR OF MARS, in:
SLAVES of the SPIDER-SWARM!

GULLIVAR JONES, WARRIOR OF MARS!™

UNMOVING, UNKNOWNING, I LAY UPON THE MARTIAN BARGE, HEEDLESS OF THE HARSH CROAKINGS OF NIGHT-BORN PREDATORS UPON THE NEAR BUT UNREACHABLE SHORE. AND ALL THE WHILE, THE FUNERAL CRAFT FLEW SWIFTLY, EVER MORE SWIFTLY DOWN THE SINISTER COURSE WHICH THE MARTIANS CALL THE--

RIVER OF THE DEAD!



PRESENTS **STAN LEE** AND **GIL KANE**
ROY THOMAS WRITER
SAM GRAINGER ARTIST
FREELY ADAPTED FROM THE NOVEL
LT. GULLIVAR JONES
BY **EDWIN L. ARNOLD**

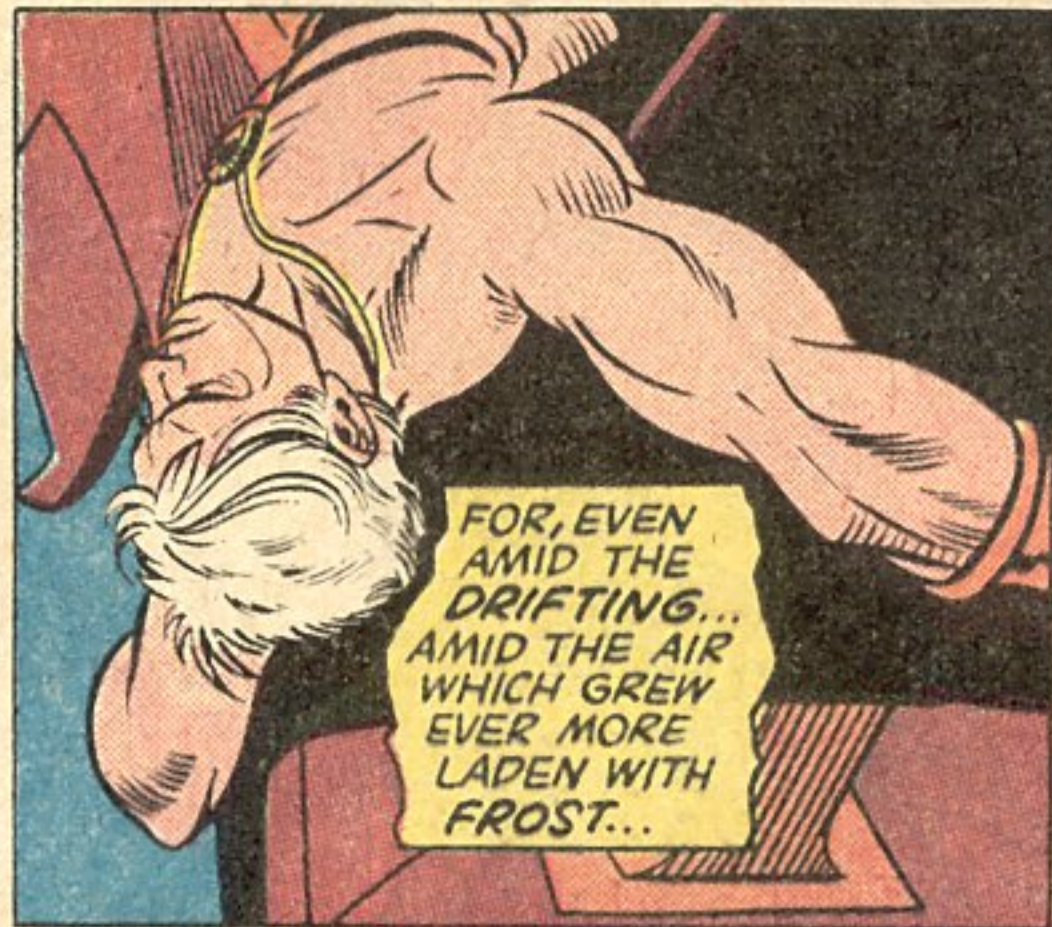
FOR, THIS IS THAT FATAL STREAM
WHICH HAS NO OUTLET, AND FROM
WHICH THERE IS NO RETURNING---!

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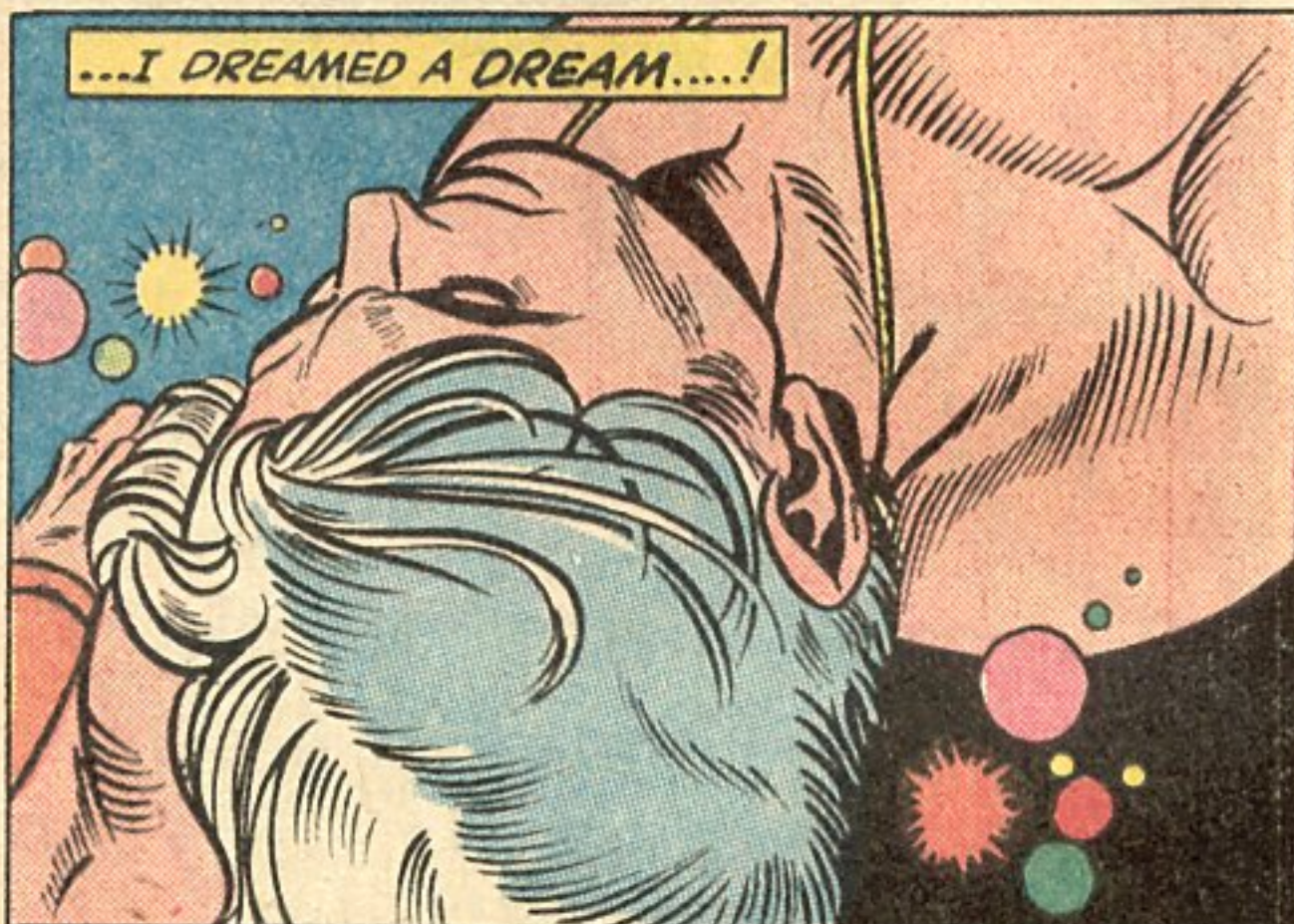
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I SCARCELY FELT THE
WONDROUS COLD BREATH
WHICH BRUSHED MY CHEEK
AS THE BOAT DRIFTED
NORTHWARD, NORTHWARD...

...WHILE LEAGUES
FLOWED BY, PETALS
CAUGHT IN TIME'S
MAD TORRENT...



FOR, EVEN
AMID THE
DRIFTING...
AMID THE AIR
WHICH GREW
EVER MORE
LADEN WITH
FROST...



...I DREAMED A DREAM....!



ONCE MORE, I RE-LIVED
THAT OTHER NIGHT, SO
LONG AND FAR AWAY,
WHEN I HAD LAST
STOOD ON EARTH'S
GREY FACE... *
WHEN I HAD
HEARD...

*SEE LAST
ISSUE'S
ORIGIN
TALE.
--STAN.



GULLIVAR
JONES!



I, LU-POV, HAVE
JOURNEYED MILES
AND EONS TO
SUMMON YOU.

MY TIME IS
ENDED... BUT
YOURS IS YET
TO COME

ONCE MORE THE GOLDEN
STRANGER DIED IN MY
ARMS, BEQUEATHING TO ME
HIS MYSTERIOUS AMULET...

ONCE MORE I GRASPED IT...



...FOUND MYSELF
STREAKING SUDDENLY
SPACEWARD ABOARD
THE EERIE
LIGHT-NIMBUS...

...CARRIED 43 MILLION MILES,
AND PERHAPS AS MANY YEARS
BACKWARD IN TIME, TO THE
FABLED RED PLANET...

...WHERE I ARRIVED AT
AN OPPORTUNE MOMENT
TO RESCUE THE
PRINCESS HERU...

...FROM THE
CRIMSON
BARBARIANS
WHO HAD
DEMANDED
HER AS
TRIBUTE
FROM HER
PEOPLE...



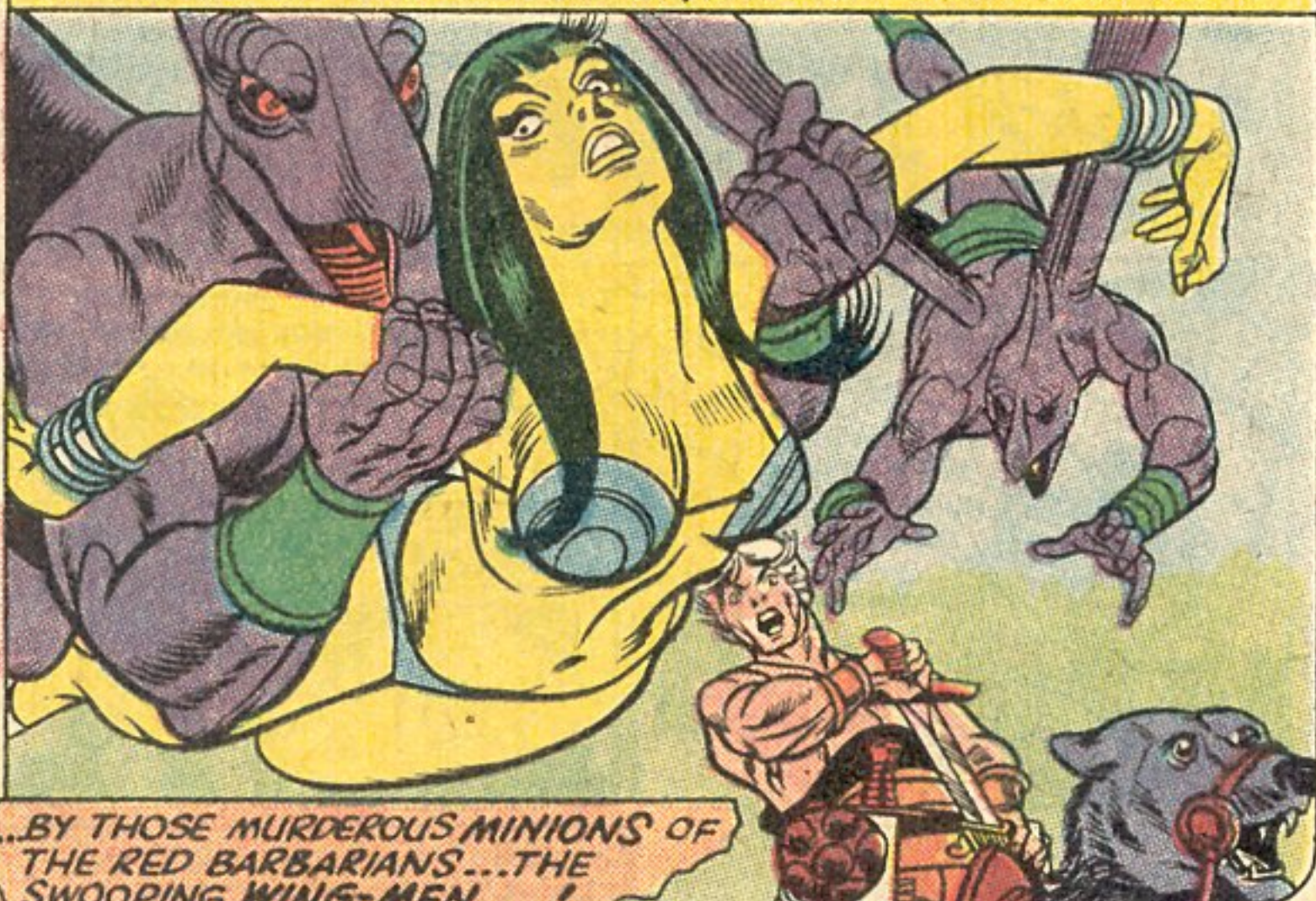
...A PEOPLE TOO
WEAK-WILLED,
TOO INDOLENT
TO DEFEND
EVEN THEIR
OWN STAINED
HONOR...!

ONCE MORE, I HELD THE
GOLDEN HERU IN MY ARMS,
UNDER THE MOONS OF MARS...

ONCE
MORE WE
KISSED...



THEN, AS SUDDENLY AS BEFORE, SHE WAS TAKEN FROM ME....



...BY THOSE MURDEROUS MINIONS OF
THE RED BARBARIANS...THE
SWOOPING WING-MEN.....!

AND NOW, ONCE MORE,
I FELL...

...ONTO ONE
OF THE CRAFT
WHICH CARRY
MARTIAN
DEAD DOWN
THE RIVER
OF NO
RETURN....



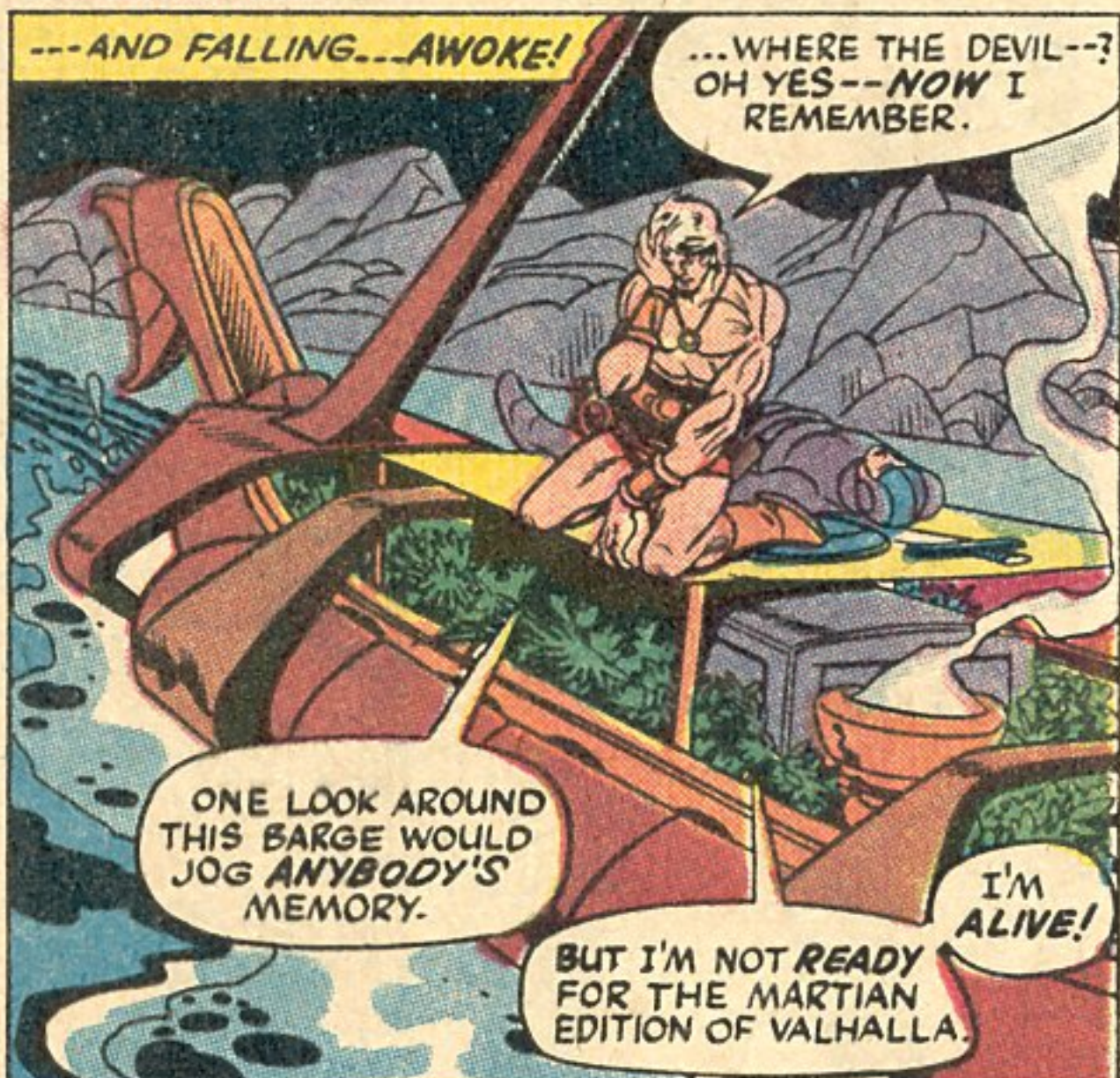
---AND FALLING...AWOKE!

...WHERE THE DEVIL--?
OH YES--NOW I
REMEMBER.

ONE LOOK AROUND
THIS BARGE WOULD
JOG ANYBODY'S
MEMORY.

BUT I'M NOT READY
FOR THE MARTIAN
EDITION OF VALHALLA.

I'M
ALIVE!



CAN'T TELL HOW FAR I'VE DRIFTED,
BUT THE RIVER'S PRETTY NARROW
HERE. I SHOULD BE ABLE TO--

HELP!

NOW WHAT?
I DON'T
HAVE
TIME
TO---



HELP ME,
GULLIVAR
JONES!
HELP MEEE!

A GIRL--
ATTACKED BY
THOSE GIANT
SLUGS
ON SHORE!

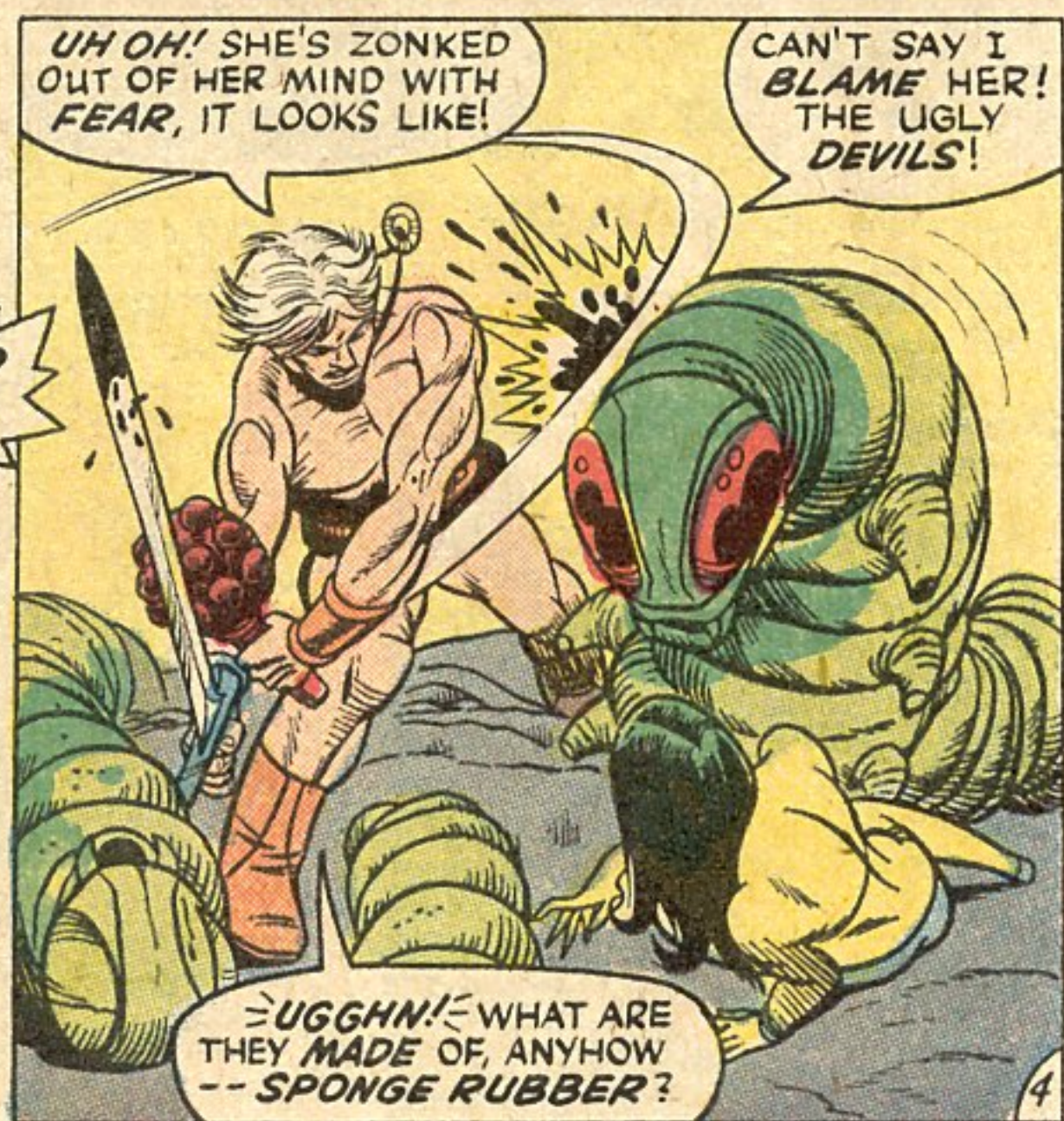
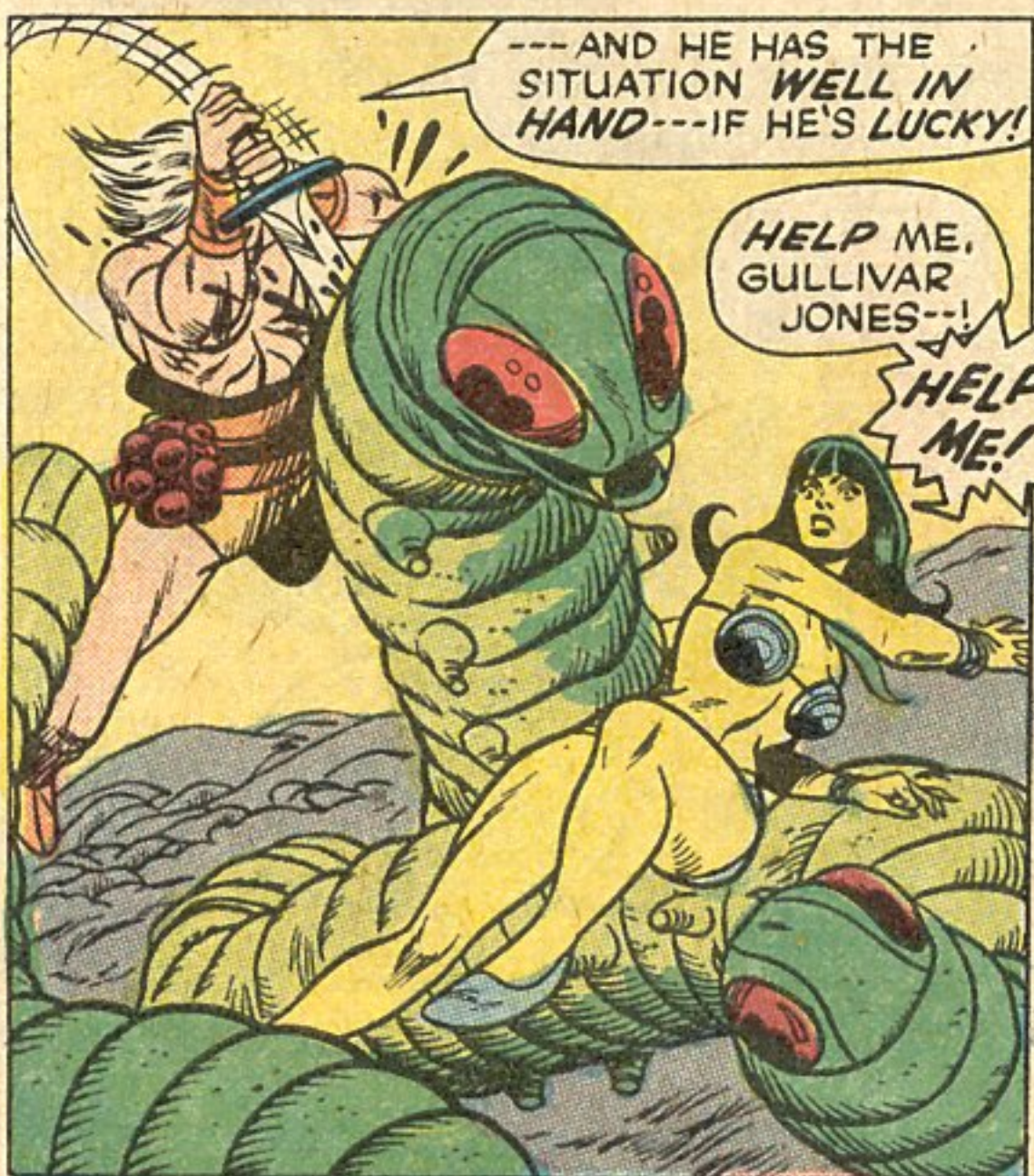
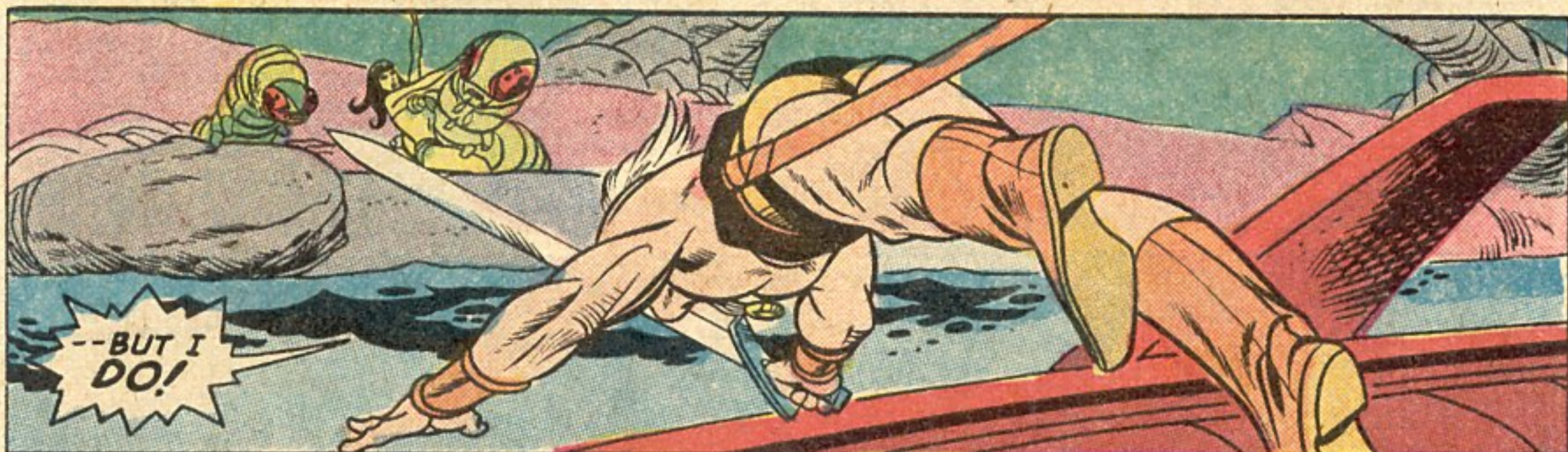
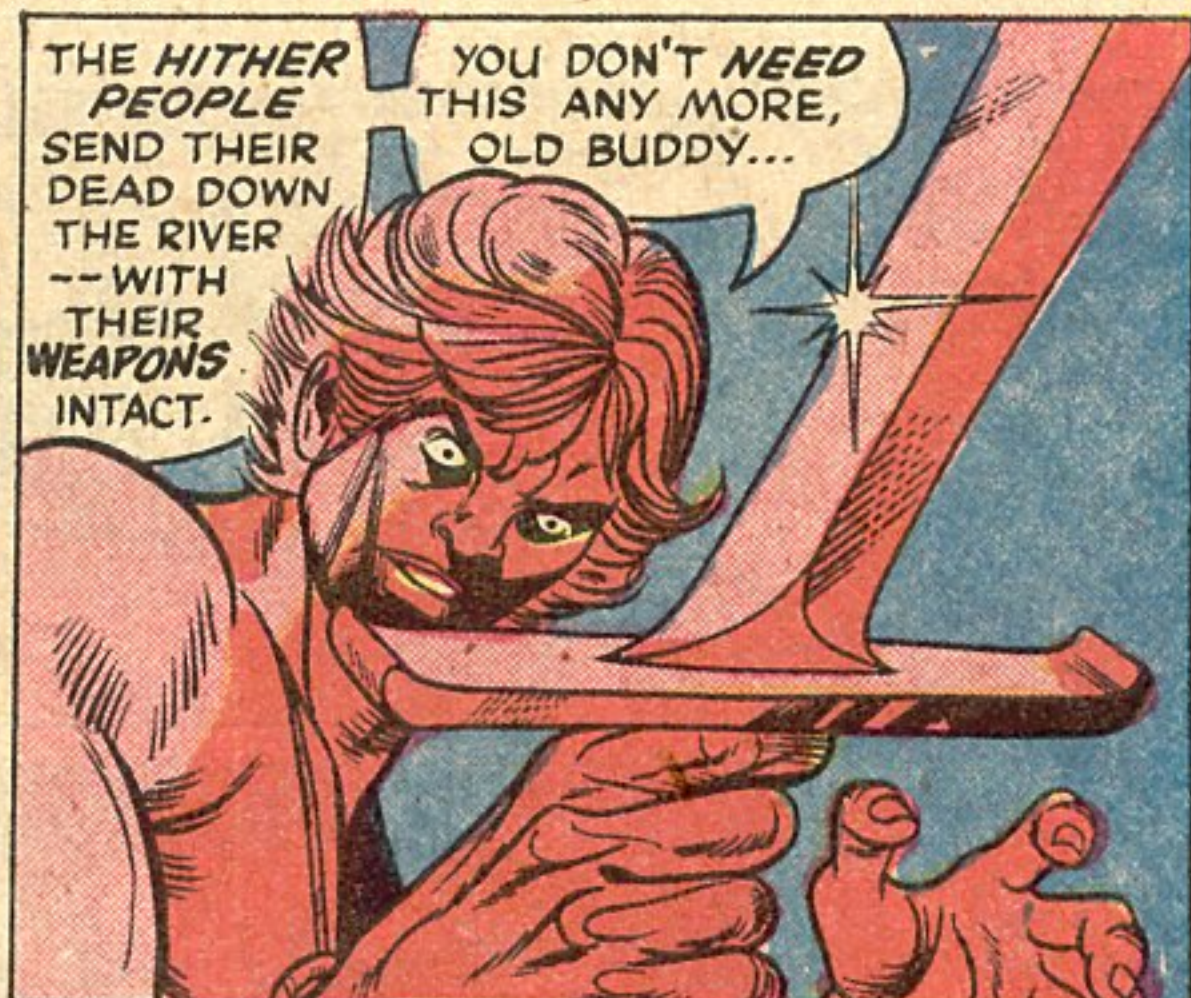
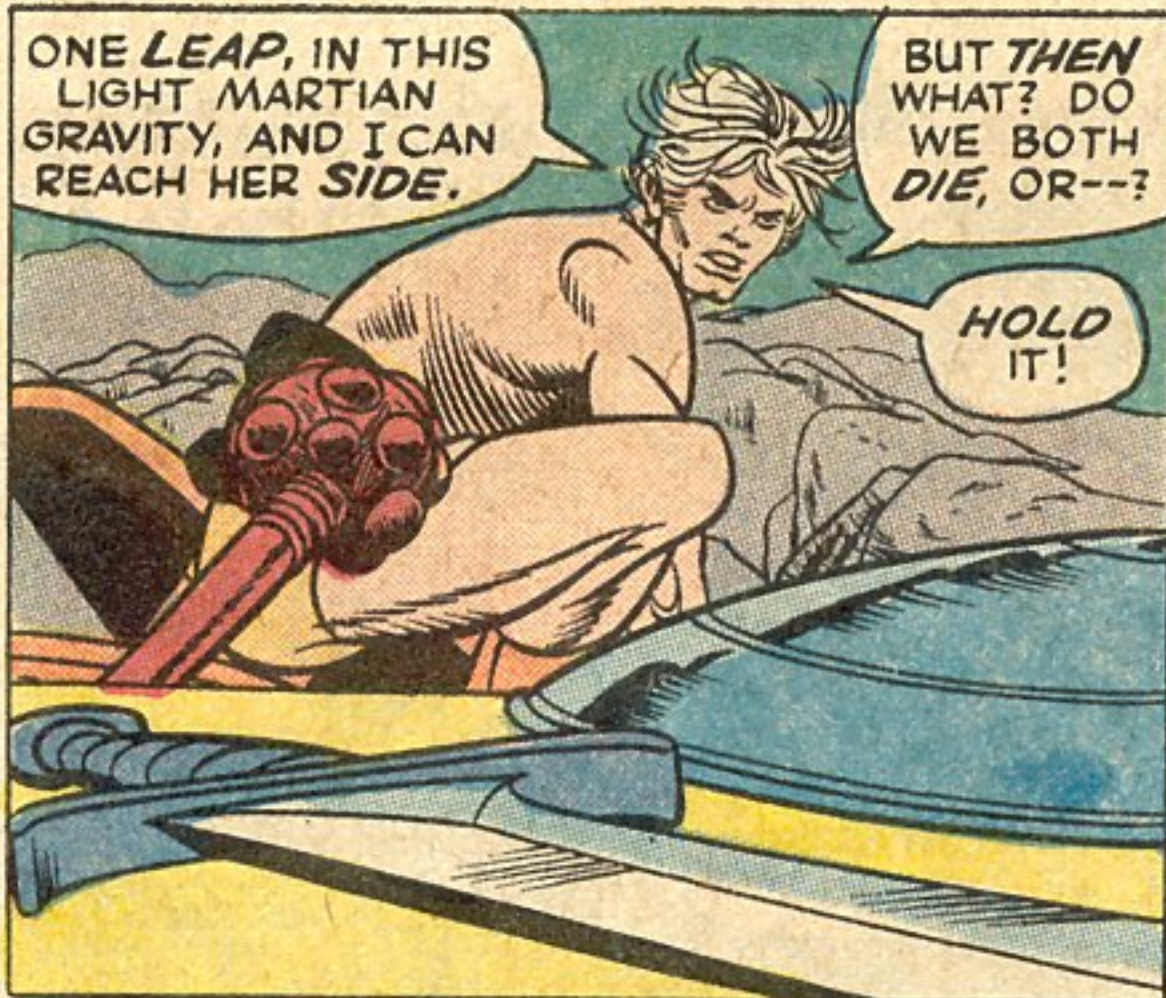
CALLING MY
NAME!? GOOD
LORD-- IT'S--

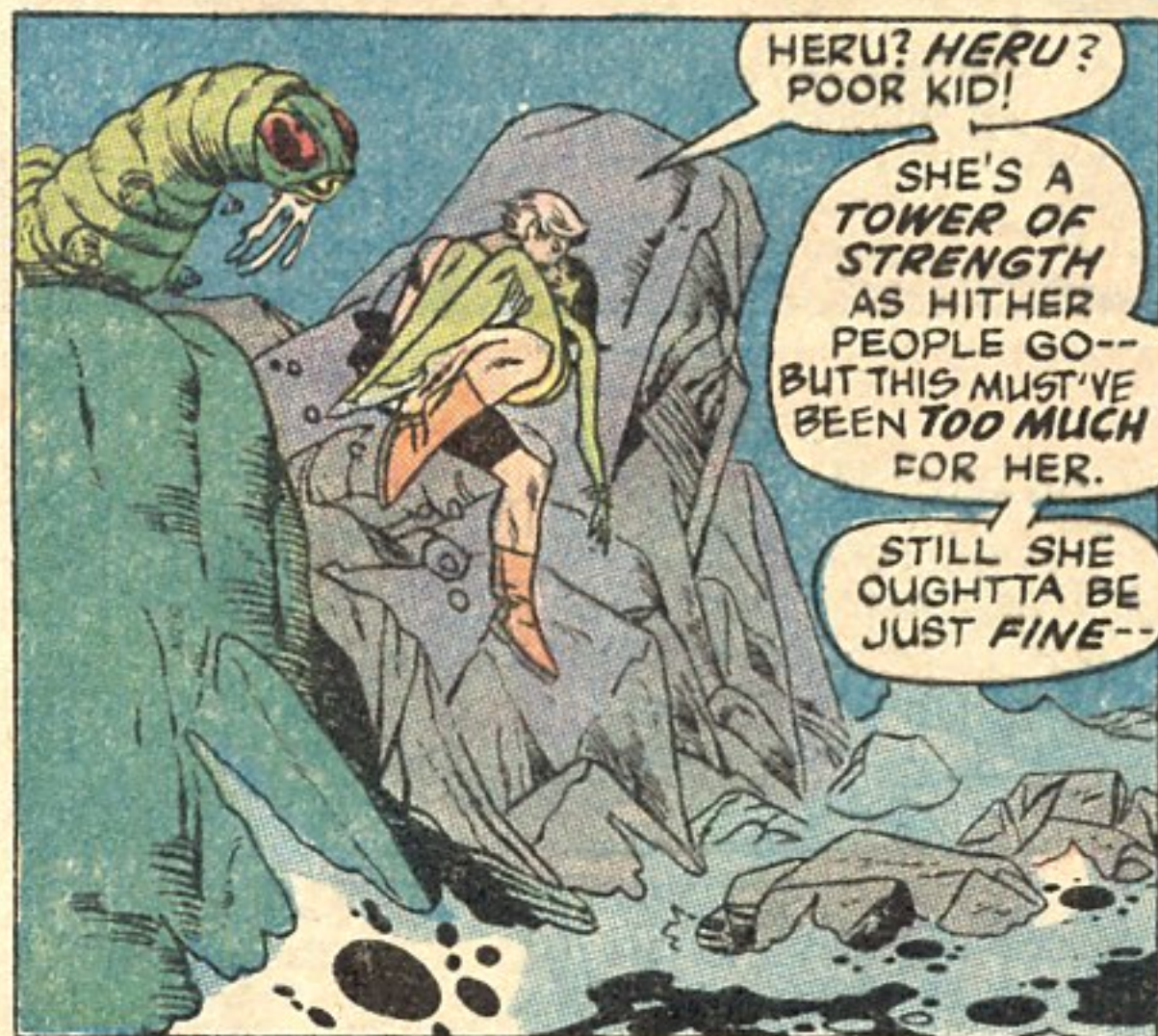
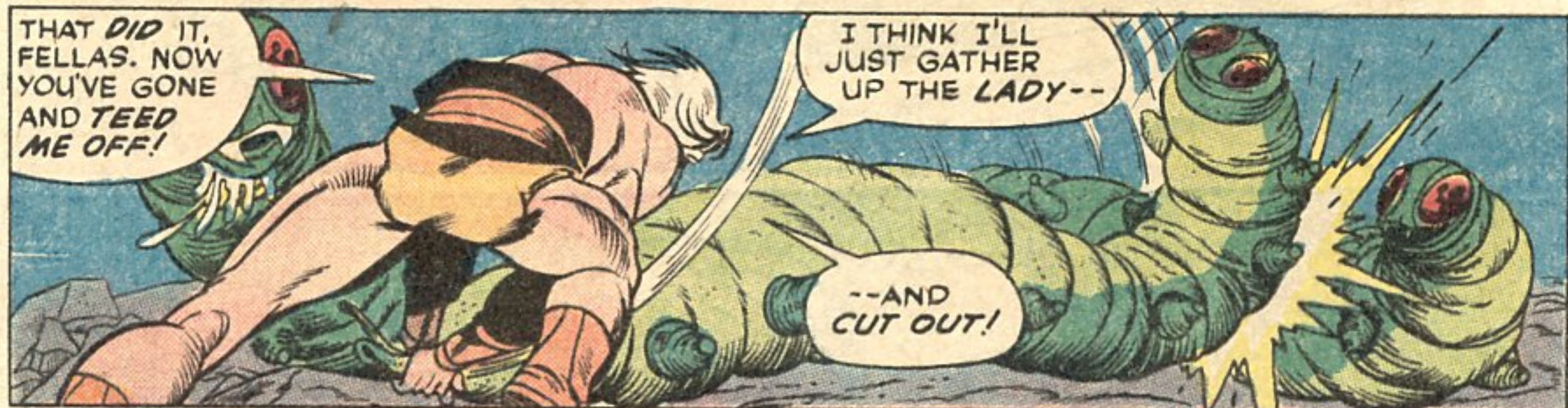
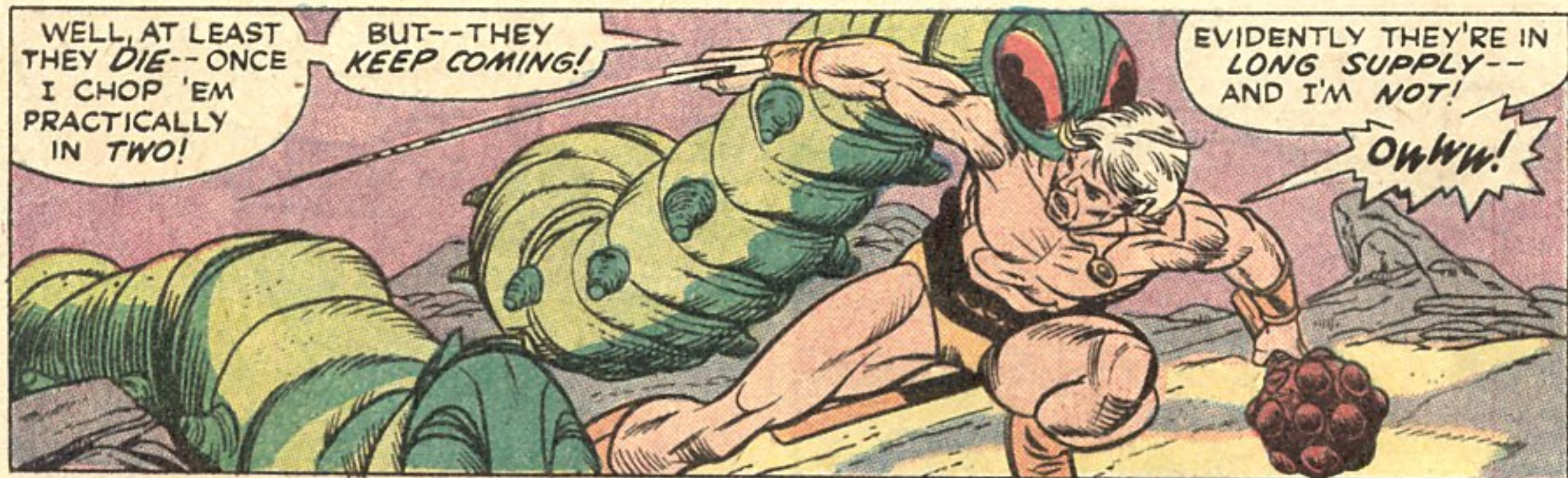


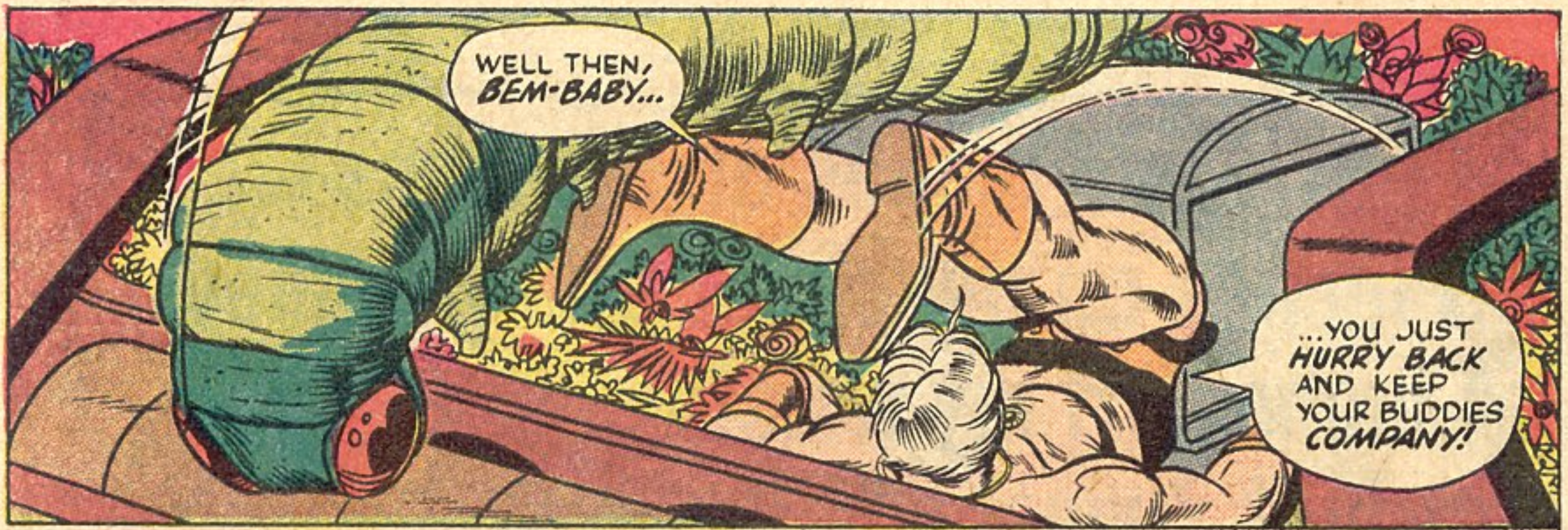
HERU!



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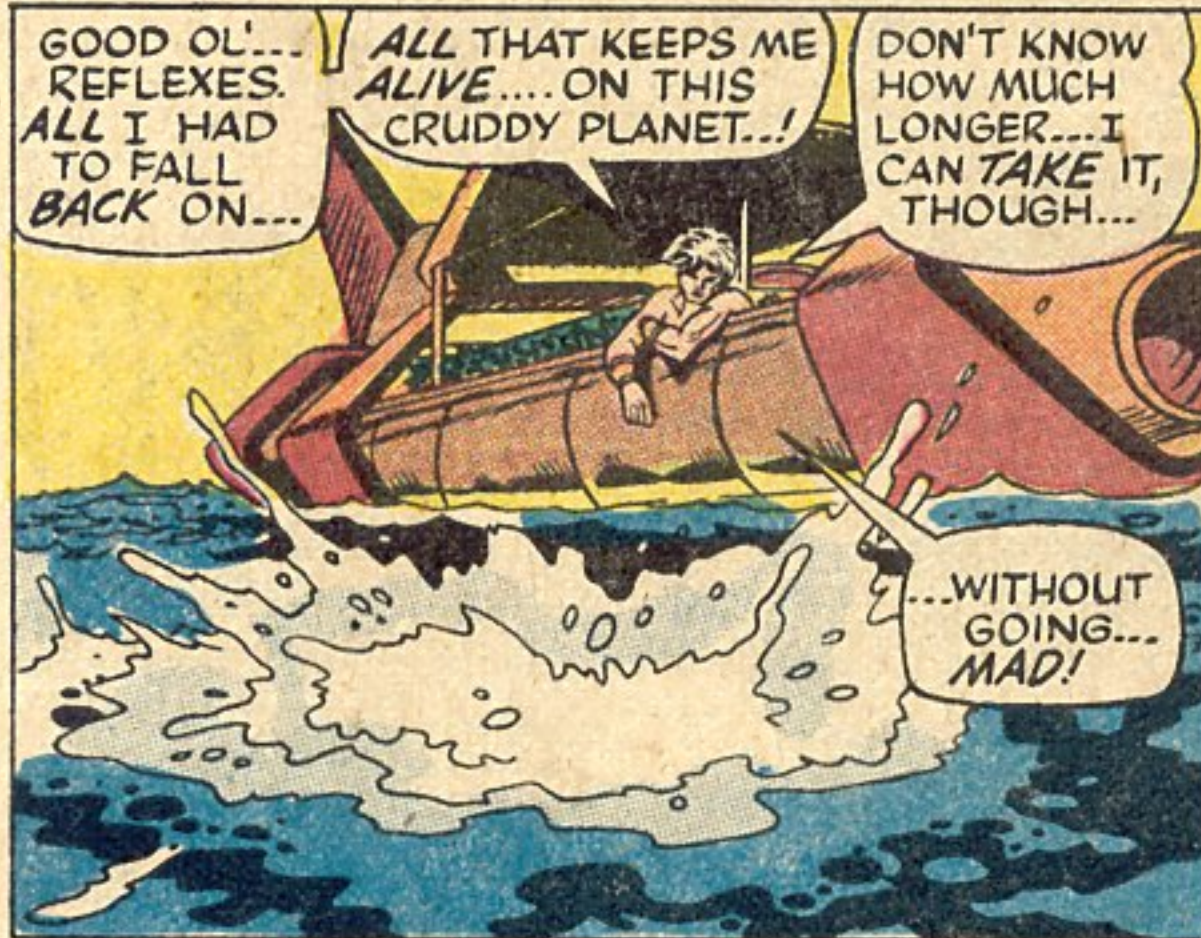






WELL THEN,
BEM-BABY...

...YOU JUST
HURRY BACK
AND KEEP
YOUR BUDDIES
COMPANY!

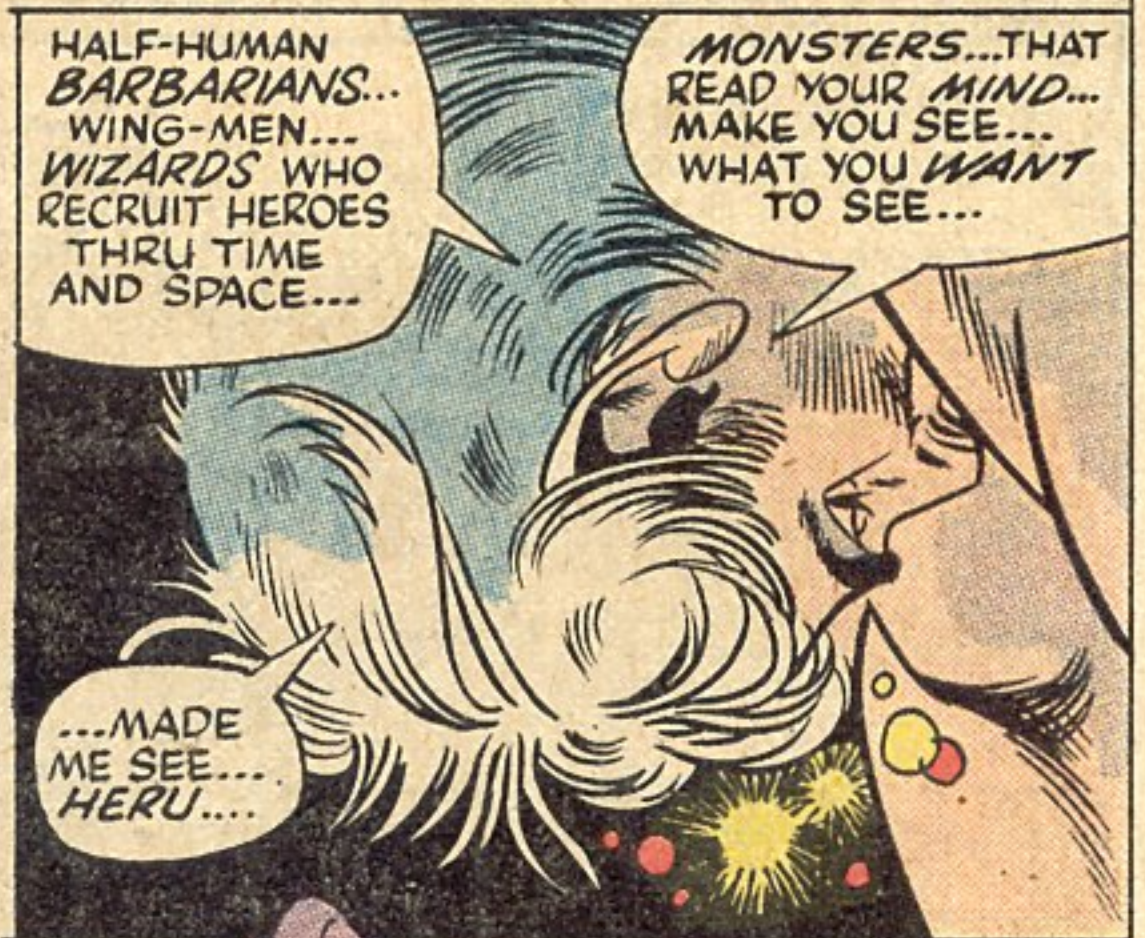


GOOD OL'...
REFLEXES.
ALL I HAD
TO FALL
BACK ON...

ALL THAT KEEPS ME
ALIVE.... ON THIS
CRUDDY PLANET..!

DON'T KNOW
HOW MUCH
LONGER... I
CAN TAKE IT,
THOUGH...

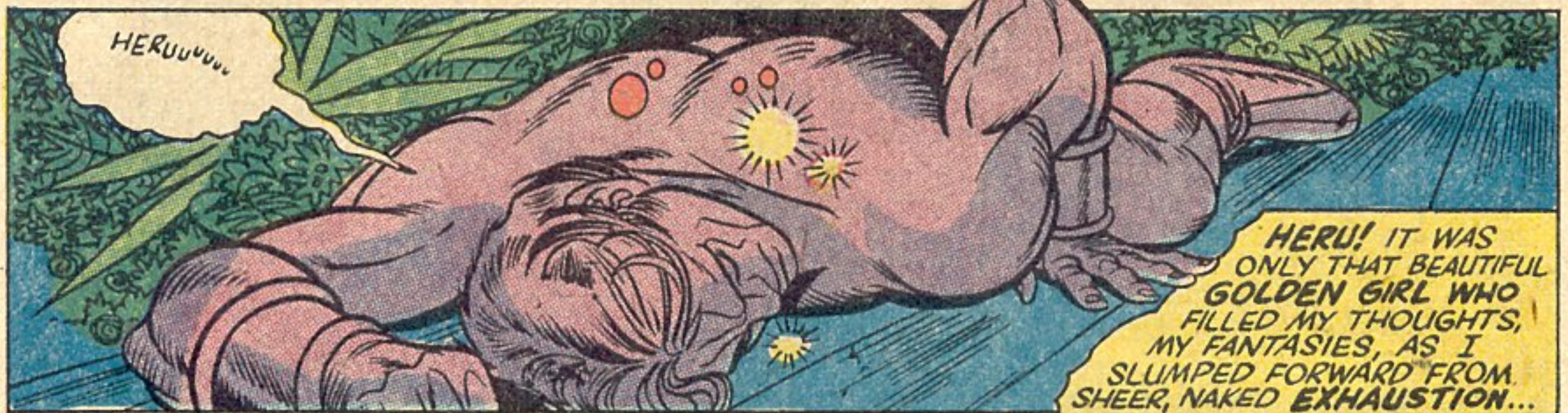
...WITHOUT
GOING...
MAD!



HALF-HUMAN
BARBARIANS...
WING-MEN...
WIZARDS WHO
RECRUIT HEROES
THRU TIME
AND SPACE...

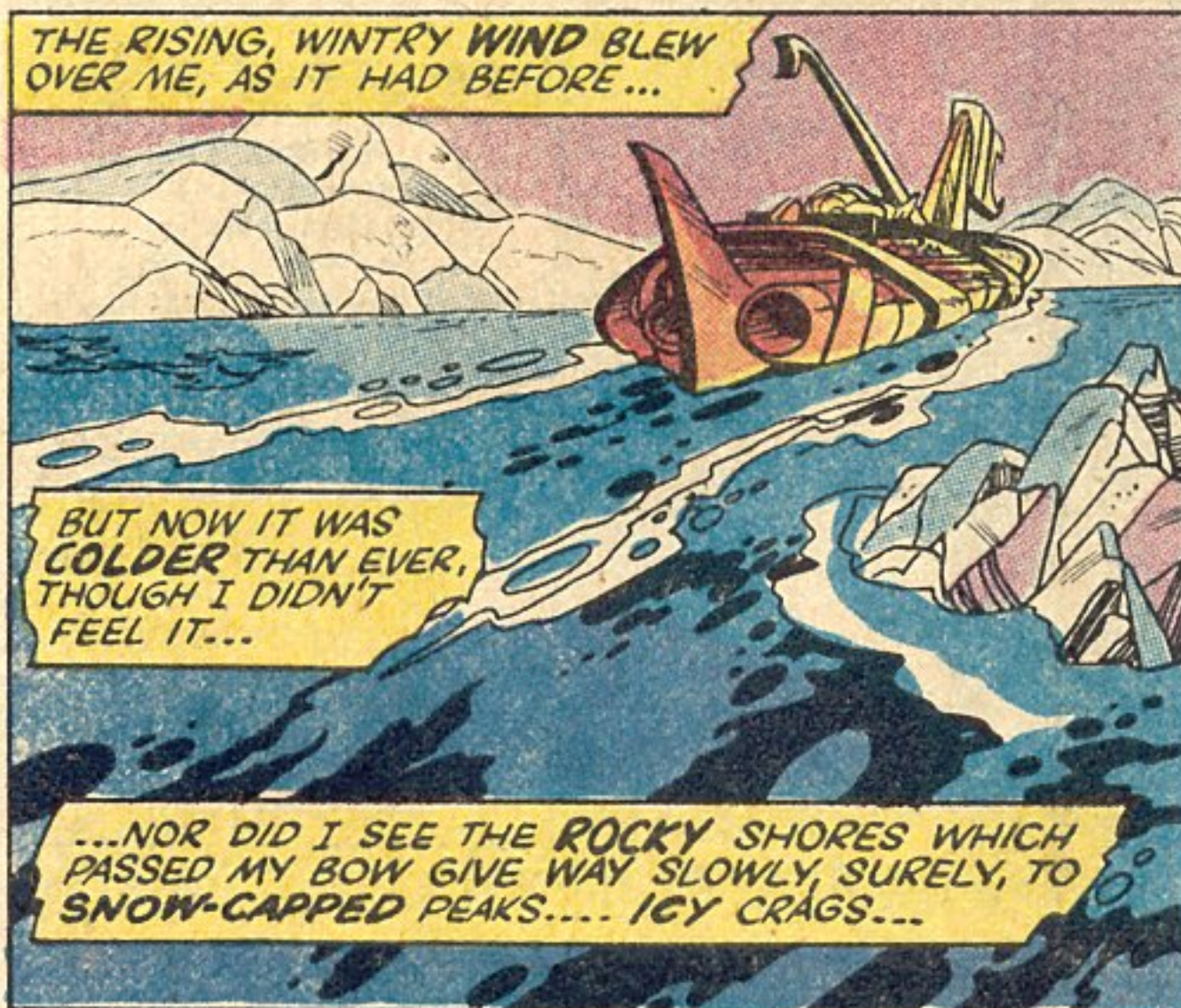
MONSTERS... THAT
READ YOUR MIND...
MAKE YOU SEE...
WHAT YOU WANT
TO SEE...

...MADE
ME SEE...
HERU...



HERUUUU...

HERU! IT WAS
ONLY THAT BEAUTIFUL
GOLDEN GIRL WHO
FILLED MY THOUGHTS,
MY FANTASIES, AS I
SLUMPED FORWARD FROM
SHEER, NAKED EXHAUSTION...



THE RISING, WINTRY WIND BLEW
OVER ME, AS IT HAD BEFORE...

BUT NOW IT WAS
COLDER THAN EVER,
THOUGH I DIDN'T
FEEL IT...

...NOR DID I SEE THE ROCKY SHORES WHICH
PASSED MY BOW GIVE WAY SLOWLY, SURELY, TO
SNOW-CAPPED PEAKS.... ICY CRAGS...



...AND OMENS
OF THE DEATH
THAT EVEN
LONG-LIVED
MARTIANS
MUST DIE...!

AT LAST, AS NIGHT
FELL A SECOND
TIME, THE RUSHING
WATERS MUST HAVE
NARROWED
AGAIN----

BUT HOW MY EARTHLY EYES WOULD
HAVE SHUDDERED TO BEHOLD,
STRETCHED BETWEEN TWO
JUTTING PROMONTORIES OF
SHIMMERING WHITE---

---A
SINISTER,
LATTICED
WEBWORK!

WEBBING
WHICH WAS
SOON ALIVE
WITH NIGHTMARES
FROM SOME
PILGRIM'S
DREAM OF
HELL--!

HEARING SOUNDLESS SOUNDS, I STIRRED...

AND THEN-- MY
SENSES REELED--!

GOOD
LORD!

MEN--PYGMIES, BUT
BUILT LIKE SPIDERS--
WITH HEADS LIKE
BATS!

IF YOU SPEAK THE
LANGUAGE OF THE
HITHER PEOPLE---
WHO ARE YOU?

NOLTOI!
NOLTOI!

THE NOLTOI!
THE DREADED
SPIDER-SWARM
OF WHICH LOST
HERU HAD
TOLD ME---

...THEY WHO
MAKE SLAVES
OF THOSE WHO,
LIVING, ACCOMPANY
THEIR DEPARTED
MASTERS DOWN THE
SACRED RIVER---

THEY UNDERSTOOD,
ALL RIGHT... THOUGH
THEY WASTED NO WORDS
UPON ONE THEY
CONSIDERED MERELY---
A FLY!

...AND DO
NAMELESS,
OBSCENE
THINGS TO
THOSE ALREADY
DEAD!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

THE WEB-ROPE
WERE STICKY...
SICKENINGLY
MOIST... THEIR
WIELDERS
FAR
STRONGER
THAN I'D
IMAGINED...

...OR MAYBE IT WAS FEAR WHICH HELD ME
HELPLESS IN THEIR CLUTCHES.

YET, AN ANCIENT
MARTIAN PROVERB
SAYS THAT FEAR
IS THE FATHER
OF MANY
CHILDREN...

...AND FOREMOST AMONG THESE...

...IS
ANGER!

MAKE ALL THE
MEALS YOU WANT
OF THE DEAD!

BUT I'M
ALIVE!
ALIVE!

AND I MEAN TO
STAY THAT WAY--
TILL I FIND
HERU!

ONLY ANGER COULD HAVE
SUSTAINED ME THRU
WHAT FOLLOWED...

...AS THE
SPIDER-SWARM
MADE NO SOUND
...NO VAGUELY
HUMAN
UTTERANCE...

...BUT MERELY BARED LOATHSOME
FANGS, AND SHAMBLED NEARER...
EVER NEARER...

...UNTIL,
EVEN AS
THEY
FLUNG
THEIR
WEB-
SNARES
AGAIN...

YOU MISSED ME, GENTLEMEN.

BUT THEN--YOU'RE USED
TO OVER-LOYAL WIVES AND
FRIGHTENED SERVANTS--

--NOT A GUY WHO COULD
LEAP A TALL MARTIAN
BUILDING IN A SINGLE
BOUND!

IF THERE WERE
ANY AROUND TO
LEAP, THAT IS!

WHAM! BOOM!

BUT WHAT
AM I
DOING--

BKAK!

--WHEN THE GIRL
I LOVE MIGHT
BE IN DANGER
--A THOUSAND
MILES FROM
HERE?

--WASTING TIME WITH
YOU CREEPS--

GOT TO
CLEAR A SPACE,
SO I CAN JUMP
OUT OF--

BOOM

TOO LATE! IN MY ANGER, I
HAD DELAYED AN INSTANT
TOO LONG! SUDDENLY, HALF
A DOZEN WEB-ROPE WERE
TOSSED SIMULTANEOUSLY...

...AND THE SPIDER-SWARM ONCE MORE
HAD NETTED ITS HUMAN FLY!

LET ME GO,
YOU HAIRY-
LEGGED SCUM!

I SAID--
LET ME GO!!

NOTHING!
CAN THEY
EVEN
HEAR
ME---
OR--?

THEY HEAR
YOU, WHITE-FUR.

AND, HAD I
EVEN BUT
ONE GOOD
EAR---

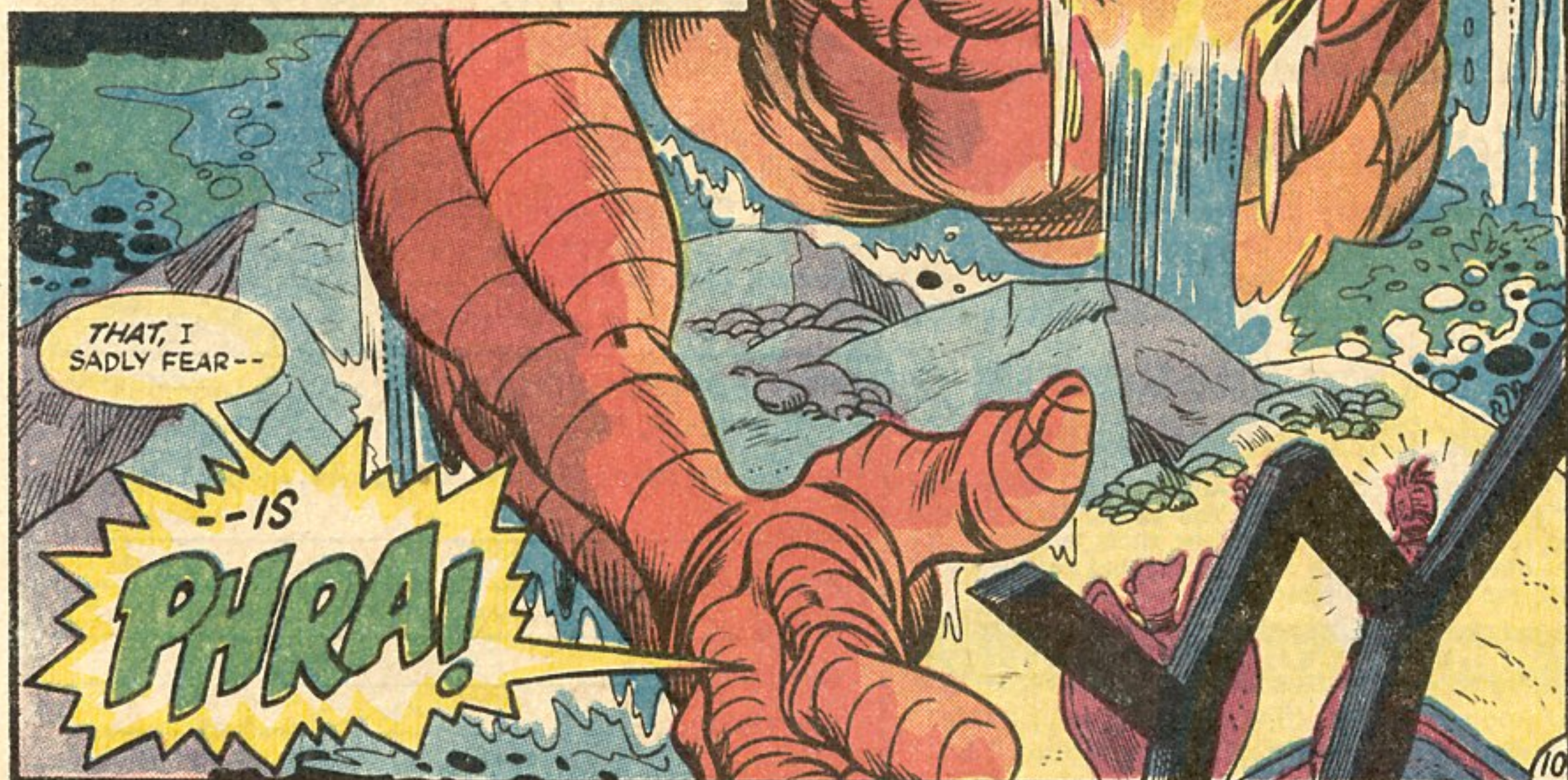
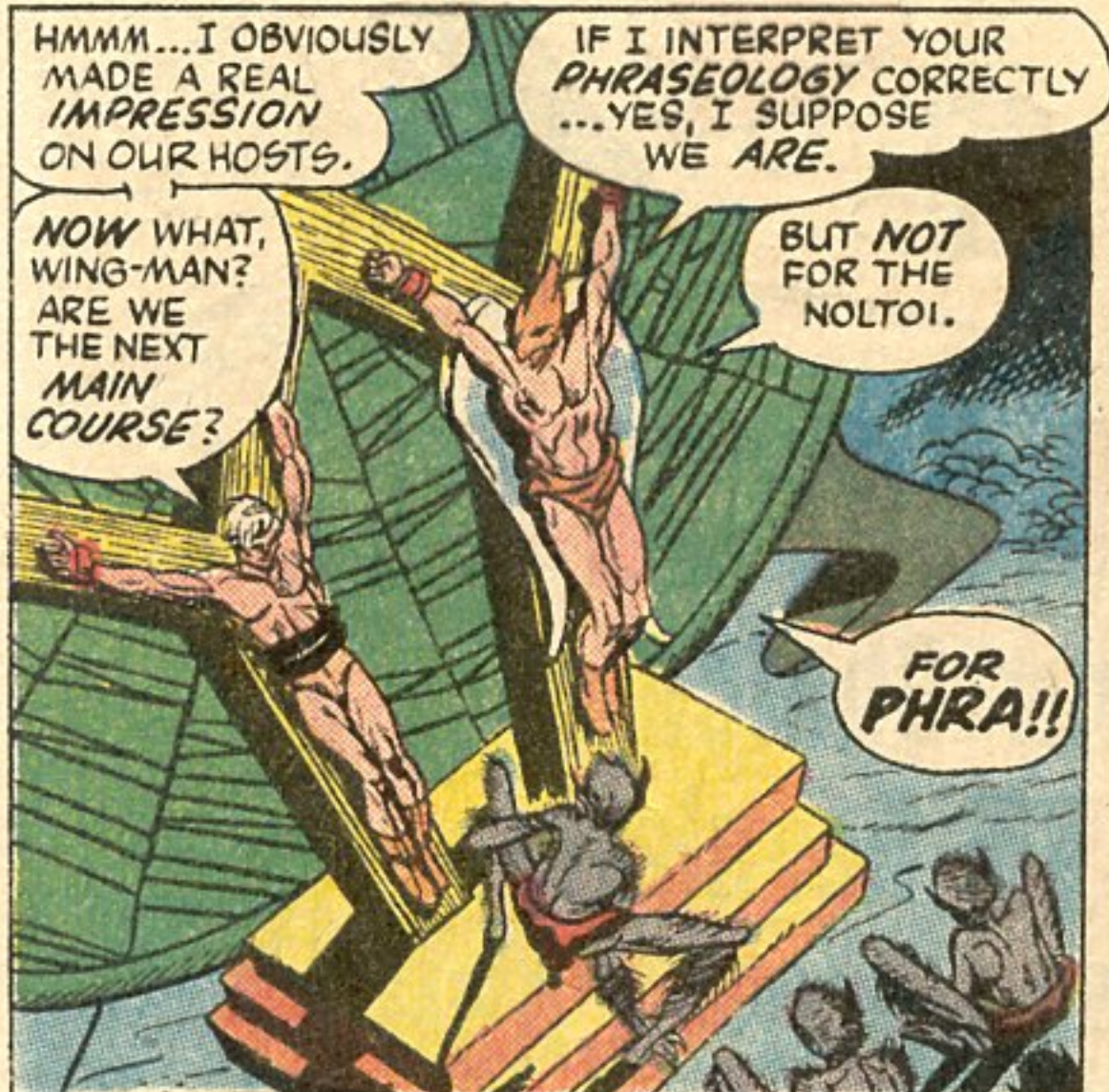
---SO
WOULD
I.

HUH? A WING-MAN--IN
CHAINS! BUT, WHAT ARE
THEY DOING---

--TO ME?

NAY!
RATHER
--TO
US!

HEY! GET
YOUR FILTHY
HANDS OFF
ME, BEFORE I--



NEXT: THE MYSTERIES OF MARS REVEALED! --IF GULLIVAR JONES LIVES LONG ENOUGH!

CREATURES
ON THE LOOSE

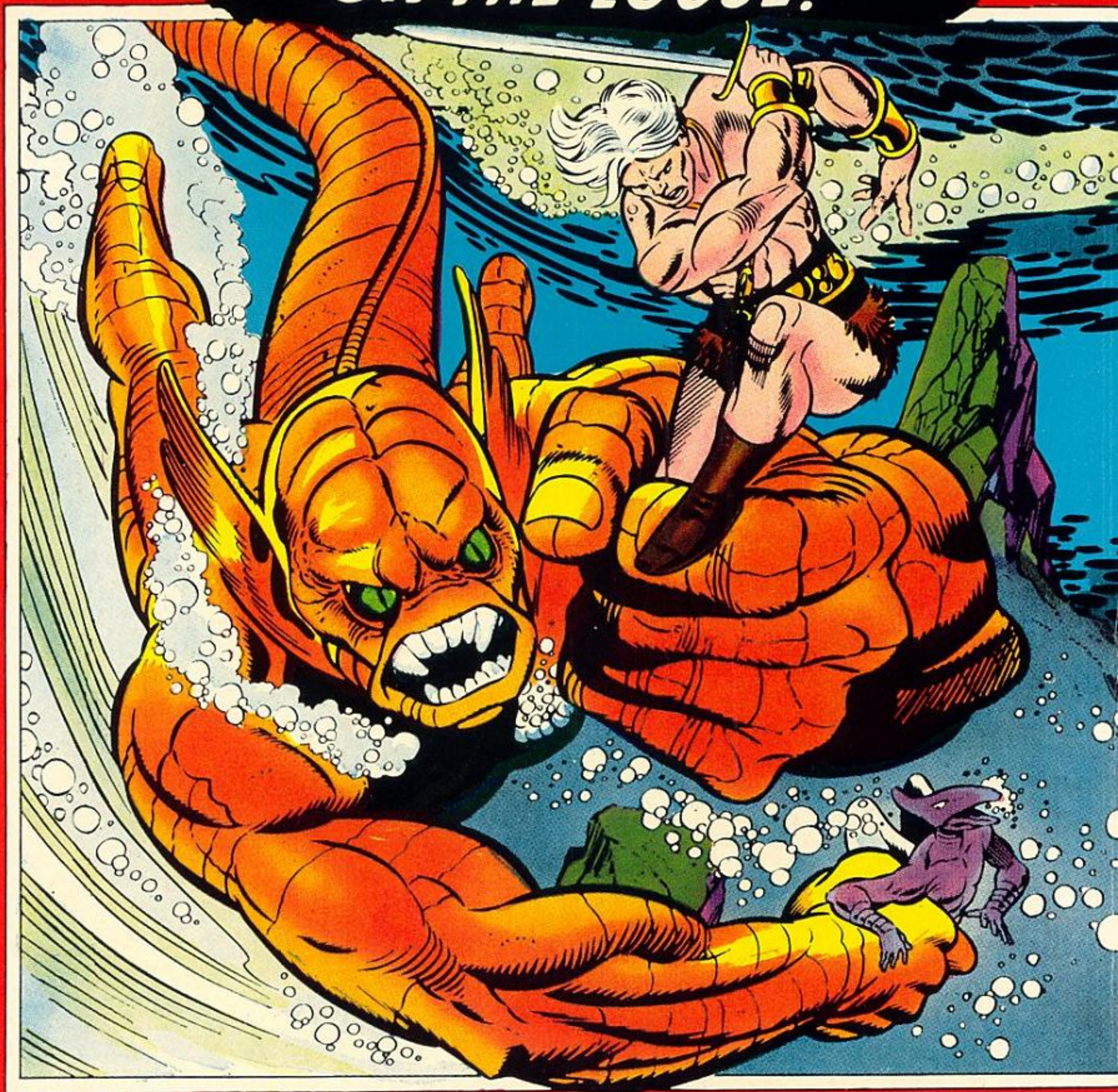
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CREATURES

ON THE LOOSE!



GULLIVAR
JONES--
WARRIOR
OF
MARS!

The FURY of PHRA!

GULLIVAR JONES, WARRIOR OF MARS!™



FOR ONLY THREE SHORT DAYS
HAD I BREATHED THE STRANGELY
SWEET MARTIAN AIR-- YET
IN THAT TIME, I HAD FOUGHT
GREAT CRIMSON BARBARIANS
--AND RESCUED THE MOST
BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS MY
MIND COULD IMAGINE--!

YET NOW, MY
THOUGHTS WERE
NOT OF LOVELY
HERU!

NO-- AS I HUNG
CHAINED TO THAT
ANCIENT PILLAR
NEAR THE POLAR
CAP, I SAW ONLY
THE GATEKEEPER
OF THE MARTIAN
HELL-- THE
DREADED PHRA
HIMSELF!!

CEASE
YOUR
FRUITLESS
STRUGGLINGS,
PINK-SKIN!

IT IS
ESCAPE
YOU SEEK--
AND THERE IS
NO ESCAPE
FROM
PHRA!

WASTELAND..

ON A WEIRDLING WORLD!

STAN LEE

PRESENTS A VOYAGE TO THE WAR-PLANET,
ABLY CONDUCTED BY:

GEORGE and GERRY * ROSS and SAM
EFFINGER CONWAY * ANDRU GRAINGER
WRITERS ARTISTS

LETTERED BY WITH AN HISTORICAL SERIES INSPIRED BY THE
JEAN * HELPING HAND BY * NOVEL LT. GULLIVAR
IZZO * ROY JONES BY
THOMAS EDWIN L. ARNOLD 9112

Scan by Felt

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MY CO-VICTIM, THE WING-MAN, WAS AS **HELPLESS** AS I. BUT WHILE I STRUGGLED, CURSING, WITH THE SHACKLES THAT HELD ME **CAPTIVE**, HE HUNG LIMPLY AND PRAYED FOR A QUICK DEATH--

COME, MIGHTY **PHRA!**
SEND ME TO MY
FATHERS!

I'D RATHER
DIE IN BATTLE,
WITH **BLOOD**
ON MY SWORD!

BUT NOW THE SPIRITS
OF THE **DEAD** WILL
LEARN TO FEAR ME
SOON **ENOUGH!**



LOOK, POLLY, MAYBE
YOU'RE IN A HURRY TO
MEET **YOUR FATHER--**

-- BUT
MINE STILL
LIVES IN
CLEVELAND!
THERE!--

--ONE
ARM **FREE!**

MY NEW MARTIAN STRENGTH
HELPED ME, BUT BEFORE I
COULD BREAK THE OTHER **CHAINS--**

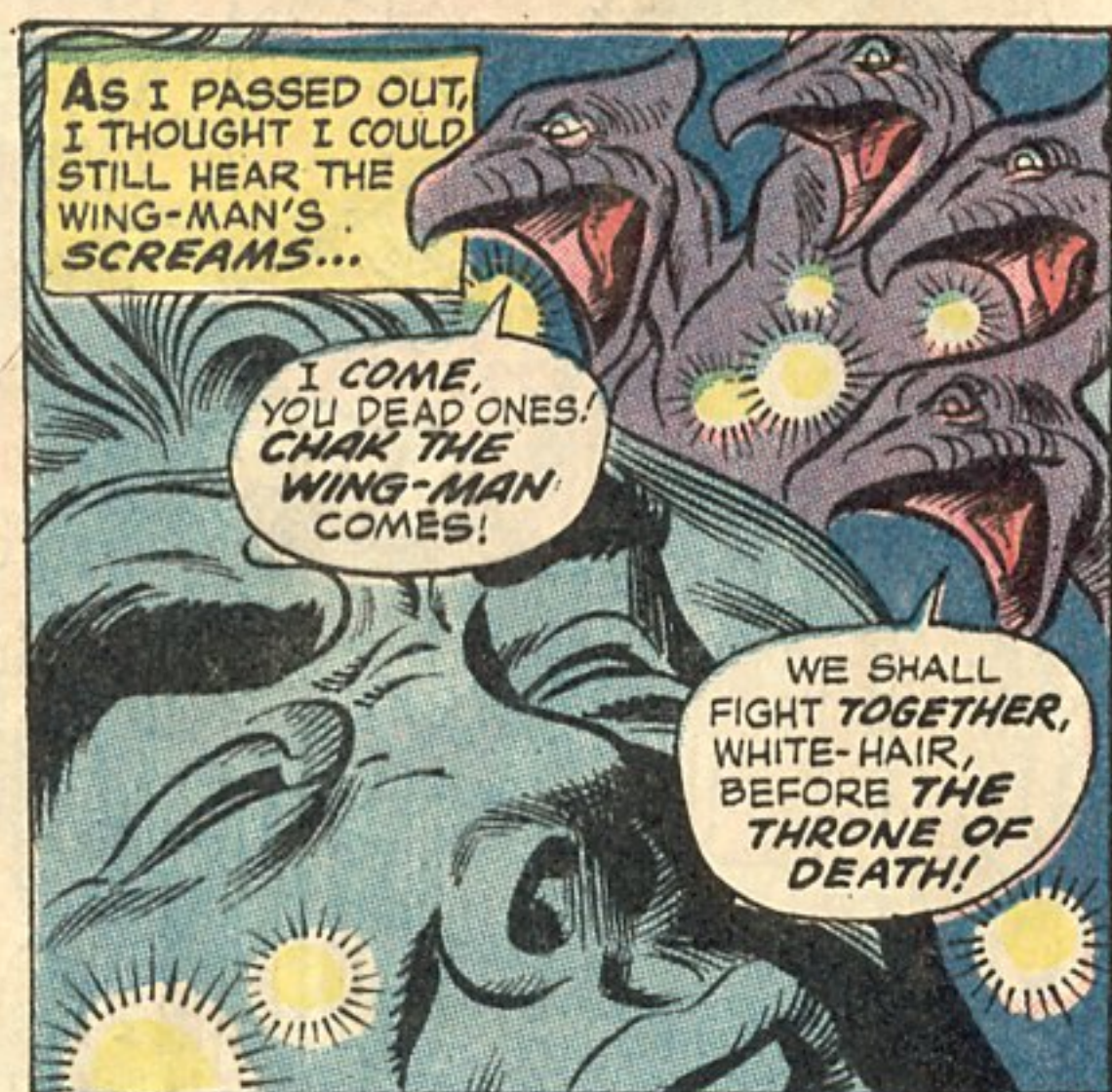


PHRA!

DON'T
STRUGGLE,
PINK MAN!

FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR
ALIEN SOUL, DON'T
FIGHT HIM!

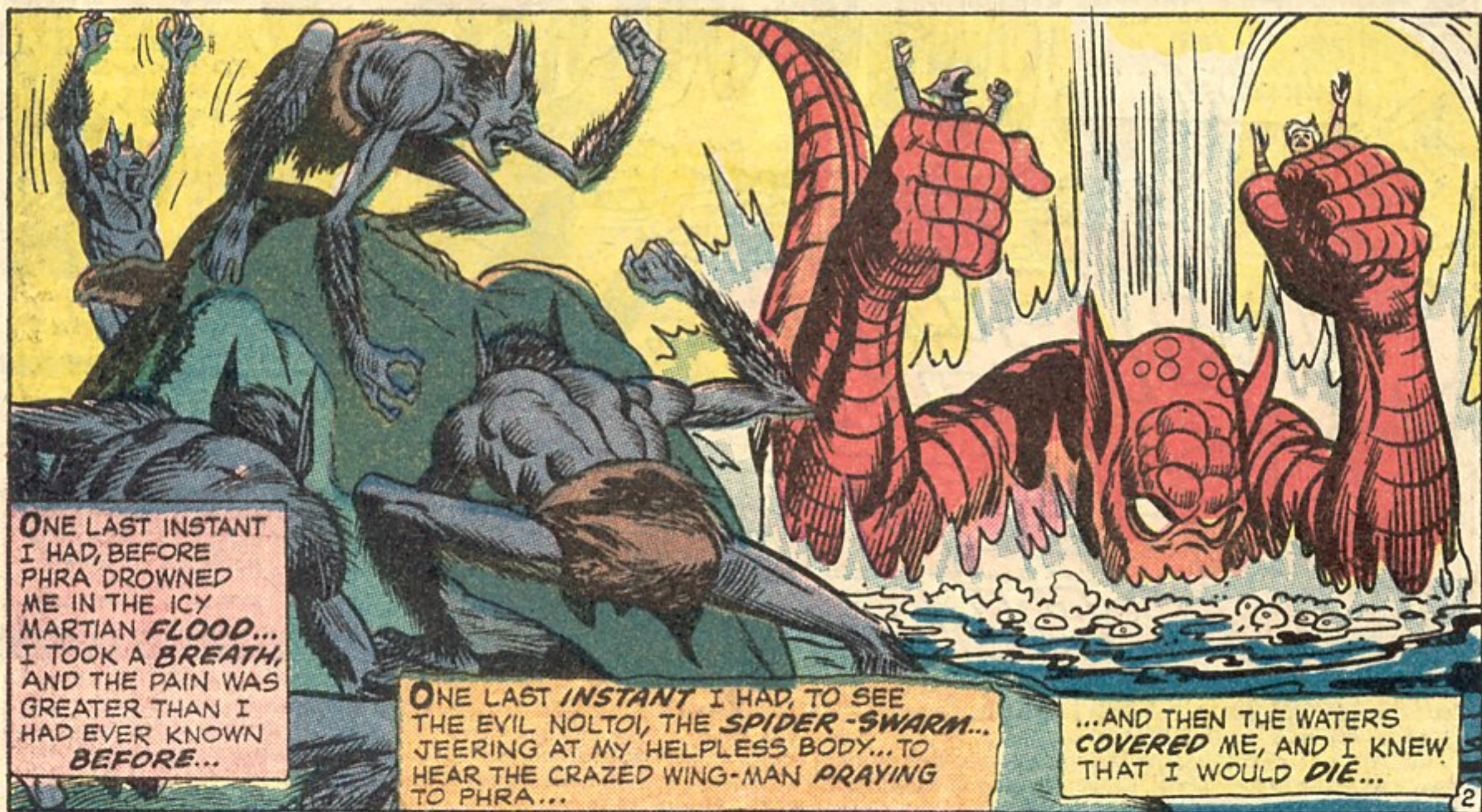
THAT MONSTROUS BEAST SQUEEZED THE LIFE-BREATH FROM ME UNTIL I THOUGHT MY RIBS WOULD **CRACK**. THE PALE SKY TURNED BLUE... THEN-- **BLACK!**



AS I PASSED OUT,
I THOUGHT I COULD
STILL HEAR THE
WING-MAN'S
SCREAMS...

I COME,
YOU DEAD ONES!
CHAK THE
WING-MAN
COMES!

WE SHALL
FIGHT **TOGETHER,**
WHITE-HAIR,
BEFORE **THE**
THRONE OF
DEATH!



ONE LAST INSTANT
I HAD, BEFORE
PHRA DROWNED
ME IN THE ICY
MARTIAN **FLOOD...**
I TOOK A **BREATH,**
AND THE PAIN WAS
GREATER THAN I
HAD EVER KNOWN
BEFORE...

ONE LAST INSTANT I HAD, TO SEE
THE EVIL NOLTOI, THE **SPIDER-SWARM...**
JEERING AT MY HELPLESS BODY... TO
HEAR THE CRAZED WING-MAN **PRAYING**
TO PHRA...

...AND THEN THE WATERS
COVERED ME, AND I KNEW
THAT I WOULD **DIE...**

THE SHOCK OF THE COLD WATER **REVIVED** ME, AND I GAZED DREAMILY AT THE UNDERSEA VISTA OF ANOTHER **WORLD**--

I DID NOT RECALL **WHO** I WAS...
WHERE I WAS...EVEN, **WHY** I WAS...

IT WAS SO QUIET, AND
I WAS SO **TIRED**--

ALL I WANTED WAS TO
OPEN MY MOUTH AND
BREATHE--

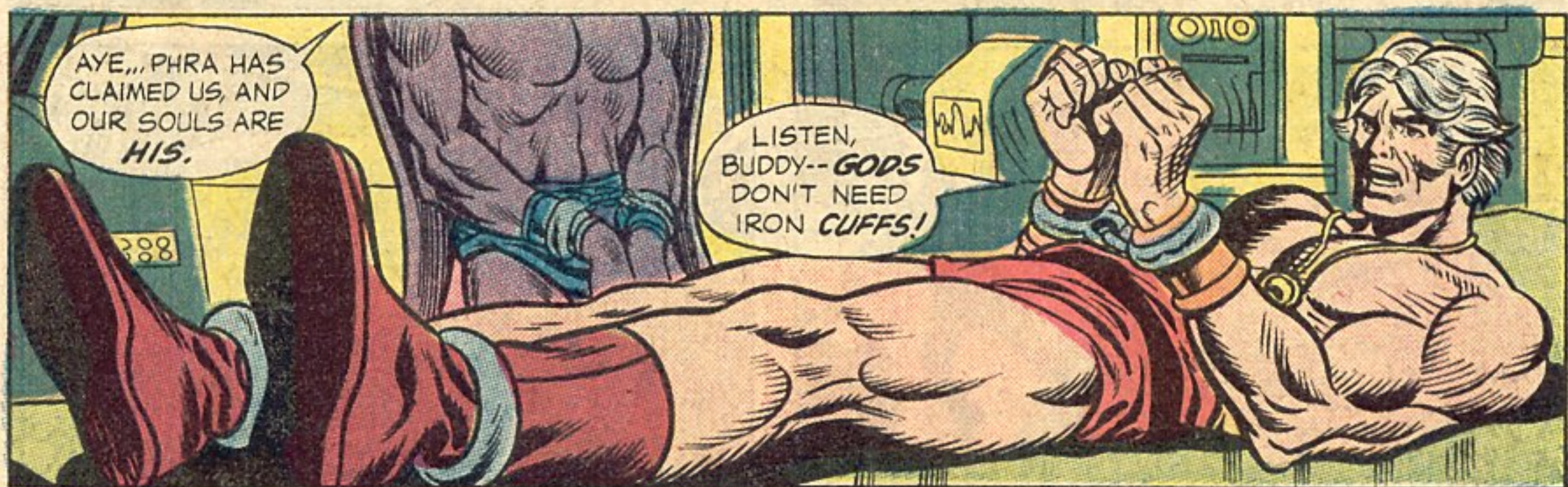
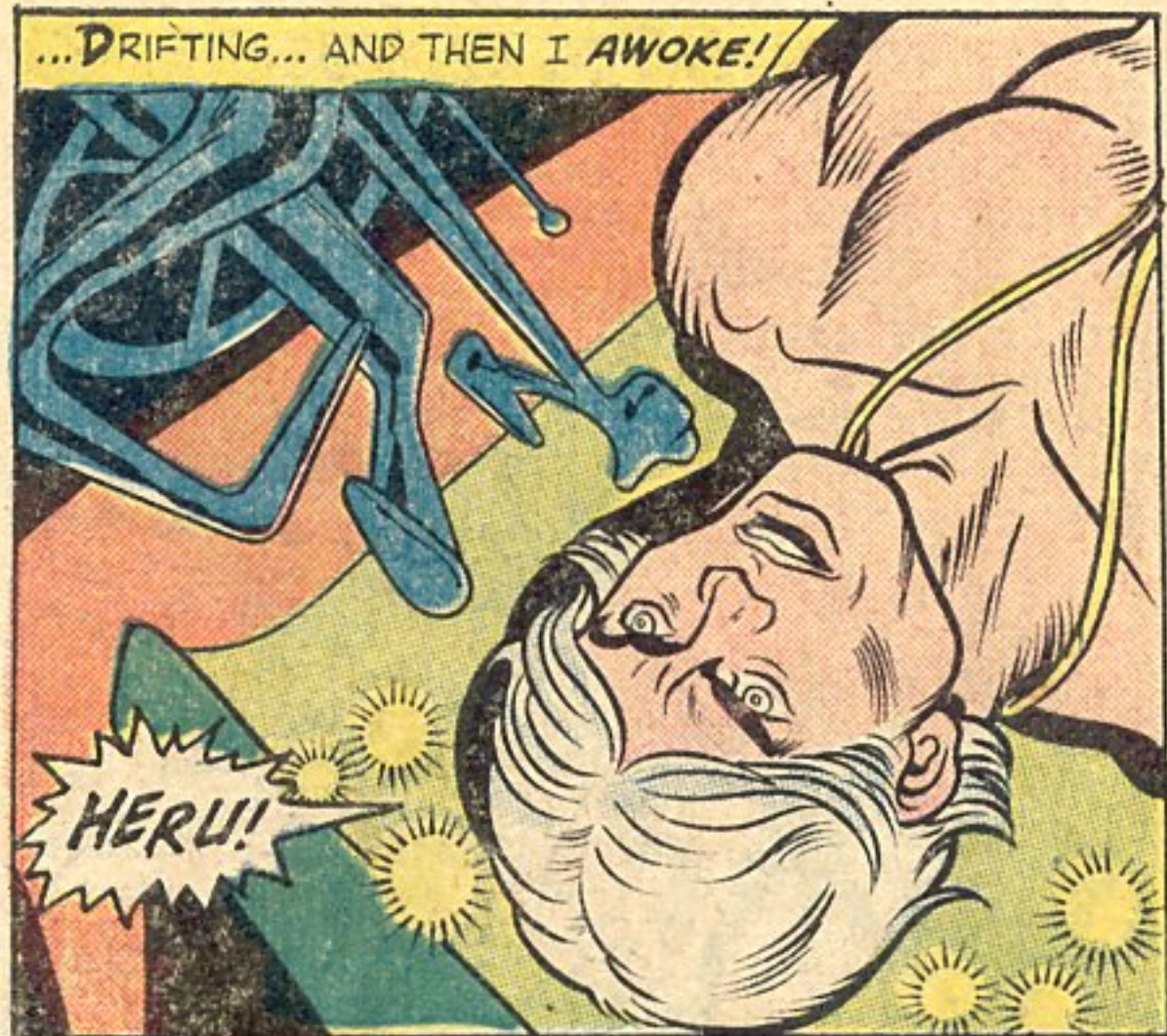
-- PERHAPS
I **DID!**

FOR THEN I WAS
UNCONSCIOUS AGAIN,
AND I DREAMED...

OF HOME, AND **LU-POV**, AND HIS **EERIE AMULET**
THAT HAD BROUGHT ME ACROSS THE **MILES** AND THE
YEARS, TO A MARS OUR SPACEPROBES WILL
NEVER FIND...

OF **HERU**-- AND HOW I RESCUED HER FROM HER
BARBARIAN **CAPTORS** AND, I HOPED, WON HER **HEART!**
I DREAMED OF MY ADVENTURES, OF MY JOURNEY DOWN
THE **RIVER OF THE DEAD**...THE WATER, THE **BARGE**, **DRIFTING**...

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE





THEN THE GOD IS **FALSE**-- AND PERHAPS-- WE SHOULD PLOT **ESCAPE**--?

AND WHILE WE **DO**, MAYHAP IT'S TIME--



--THE **WHOLE** TRUTH WERE REVEALED!

GOOD LORD!



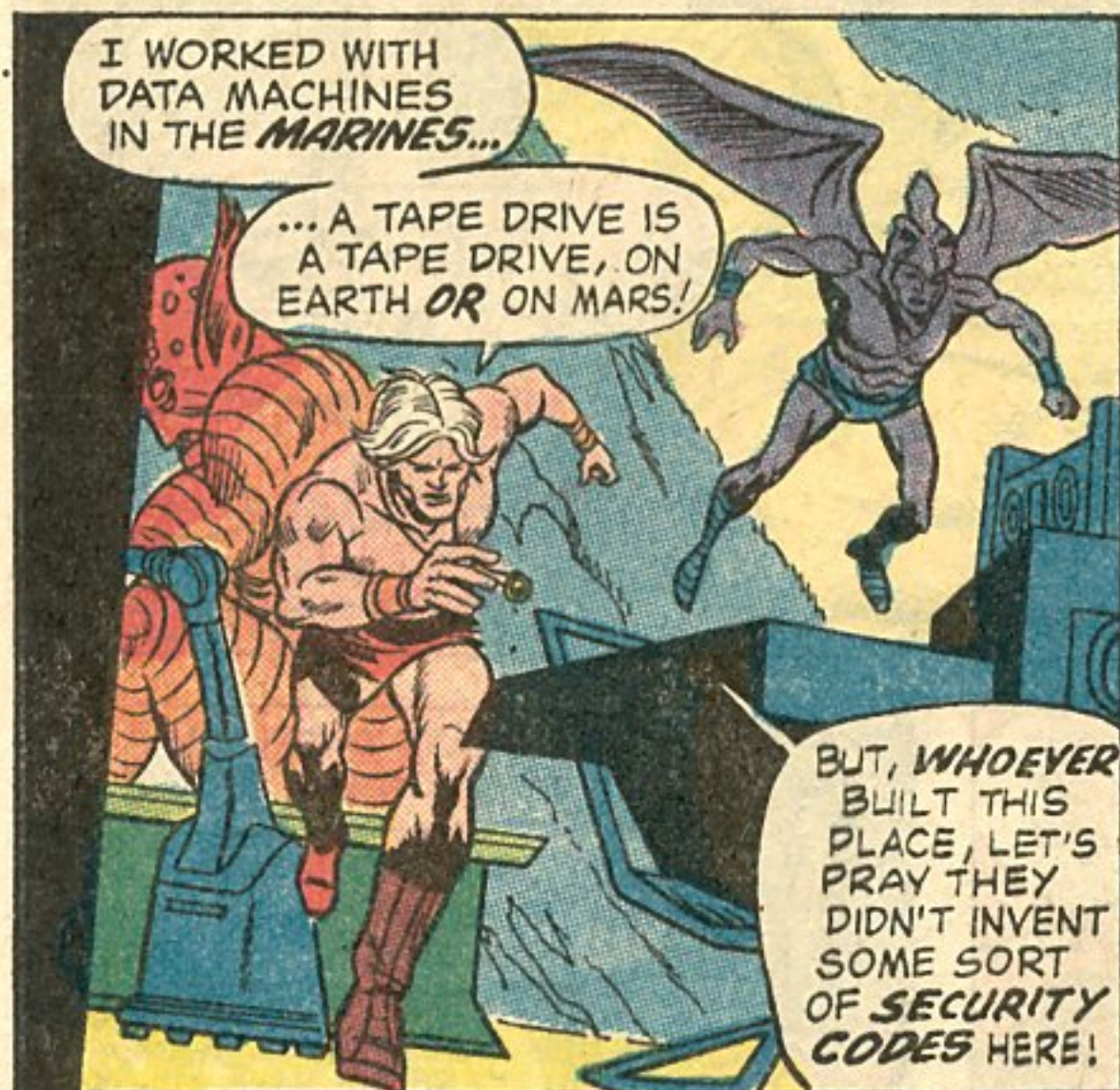
I AM A **MUTANT**, GULLIVAR-- A BEAKLESS, NIGH-HUMAN **THROWBACK**-- A CRUEL JOKE OF NATURE!

STILL, I'VE ALWAYS HAD MY **GODS** TO FALL BACK ON-- UNTIL **TODAY**!

NOT ONLY ISN'T PHRA A **GOD**-- BUT I'D LAY ODDS HE NEVER DESIGNED ALL THESE **MACHINES**-- AND HASN'T THE SLIGHTEST NOTION OF WHAT THEY **DO**!

THEN, PERHAPS **YOU**--

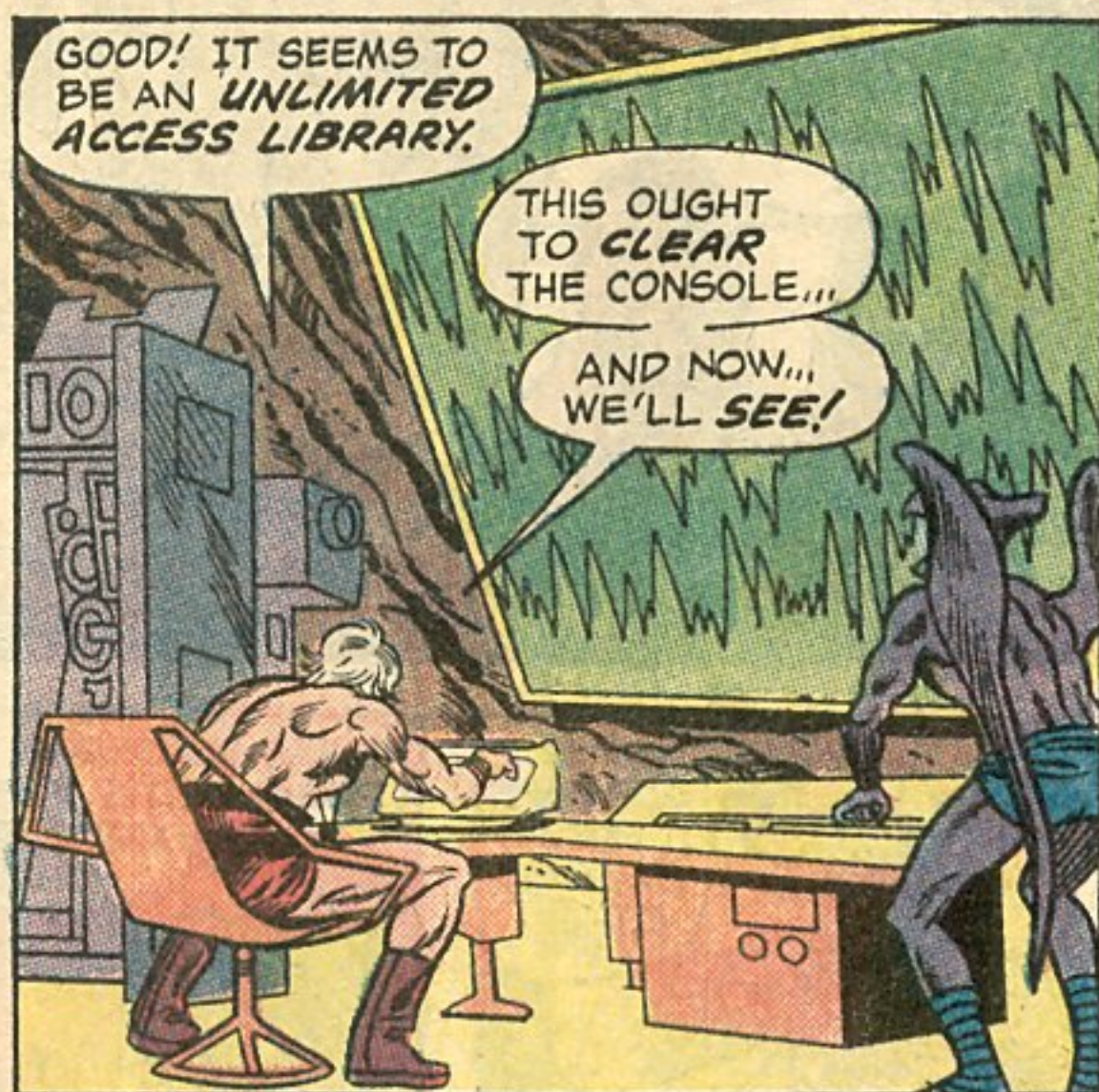
I'M WAY **AHEAD** OF YOU, CHAK!



I WORKED WITH DATA MACHINES IN THE **MARINES**...

...A TAPE DRIVE IS A TAPE DRIVE, ON EARTH **OR** ON MARS!

BUT, **WHOEVER** BUILT THIS PLACE, LET'S PRAY THEY DIDN'T INVENT SOME SORT OF **SECURITY CODES** HERE!



GOOD! IT SEEMS TO BE AN **UNLIMITED ACCESS LIBRARY**.

THIS OUGHT TO **CLEAR** THE CONSOLE...

AND NOW... WE'LL **SEE**!



FOR A MOMENT THE SCREEN WAVERED, AND THE CAVERN WAS BATHED IN A SOFT **GREEN LIGHT**... THEN A FILM BEGAN, AND THE COMPUTER'S VOICE **SPOKE** TO US...

CENTURIES AND CENTURIES AGO, THERE WAS BUT **ONE RACE** IN THE WORLD-- THE **GOLDEN**!

THEIR CIVILIZATION WAS **WONDERFUL**... THEY HAD CONQUERED DISEASE, OLD AGE... AND THE EVILS OF THE **VIOLENT MIND**...

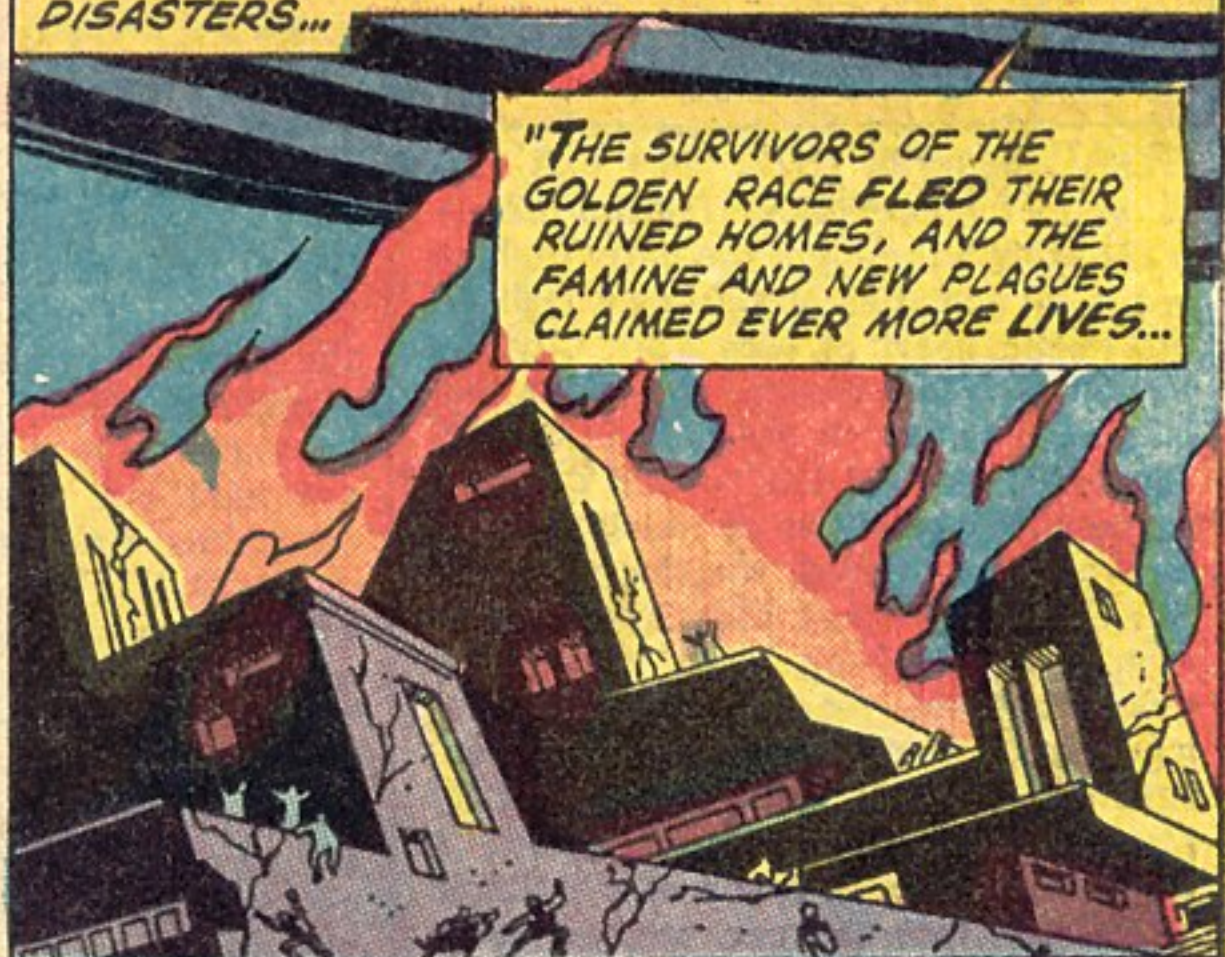


"ON THE SAME DAY THAT THE FIRST MAN LANDED ON **NOOMA**, THE NEARER MOON, THERE WAS A GREAT EARTHQUAKE THAT DESTROYED MANY CITIES AND KILLED MANY **PEOPLE**..."

"FROM THE SKIES FELL A CEASELESS **BLACK** RAIN THAT COVERED THE SHATTERED TEMPLES WITH FILTH, AND THE HEARTS OF THE DOOMED PEOPLE WITH FEAR...!"



"AS THOUGH THE DESTRUCTION WERE NOT COMPLETE, THE GODS SENT GREAT FIRES AND MORE TERRIBLE DISASTERS..."



"THE SURVIVORS OF THE GOLDEN RACE FLED THEIR RUINED HOMES, AND THE FAMINE AND NEW PLAGUES CLAIMED EVER MORE LIVES..."

"AND THESE DEATHLY TRIALS CONTINUED FOR DECADE UPON DECADE, UNTIL THE FACE OF OUR WORLD WAS CHANGED BEYOND REGOGNITION..."



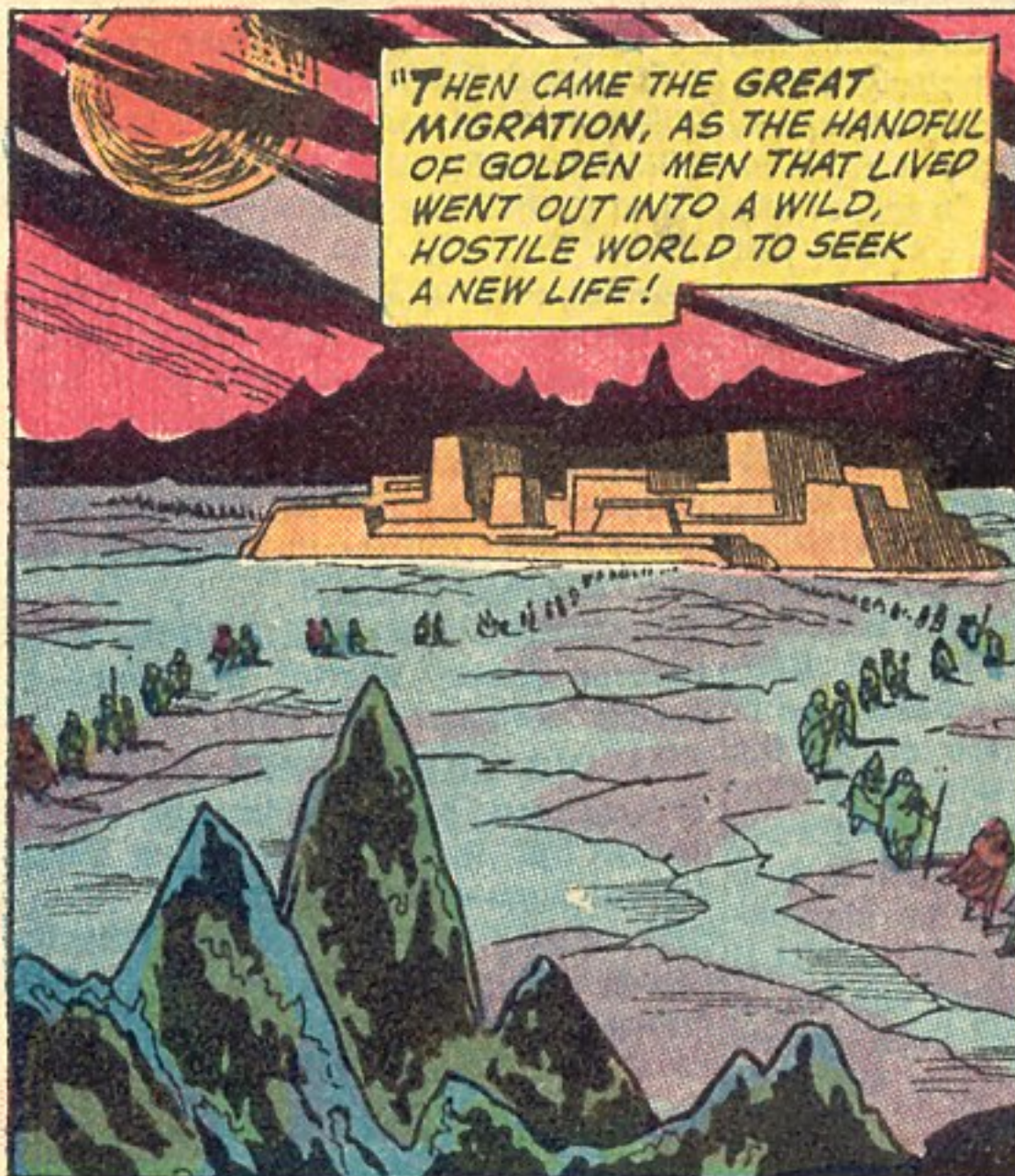
"...GONE WERE THE DELICATE SPIRES OF OUR CITIES, THE MUSIC AND LAUGHTER OF OUR HAPPY CITIZENS, THE DAYS OF PEACE AND CONTENTMENT... GONE, TOO, WAS-- CIVILIZATION!"

"NOW WE KNEW ONLY MADNESS! ONLY IN THE **TECHNICS GUILD** WERE THERE STILL LEFT SOME SCRAPS OF THE OLD KNOWLEDGE..."



"...BUT THESE MEN WERE JEALOUS AND GREEDY FOR POWER, AND WOULD NOT HELP THE STARVING MASSES..."

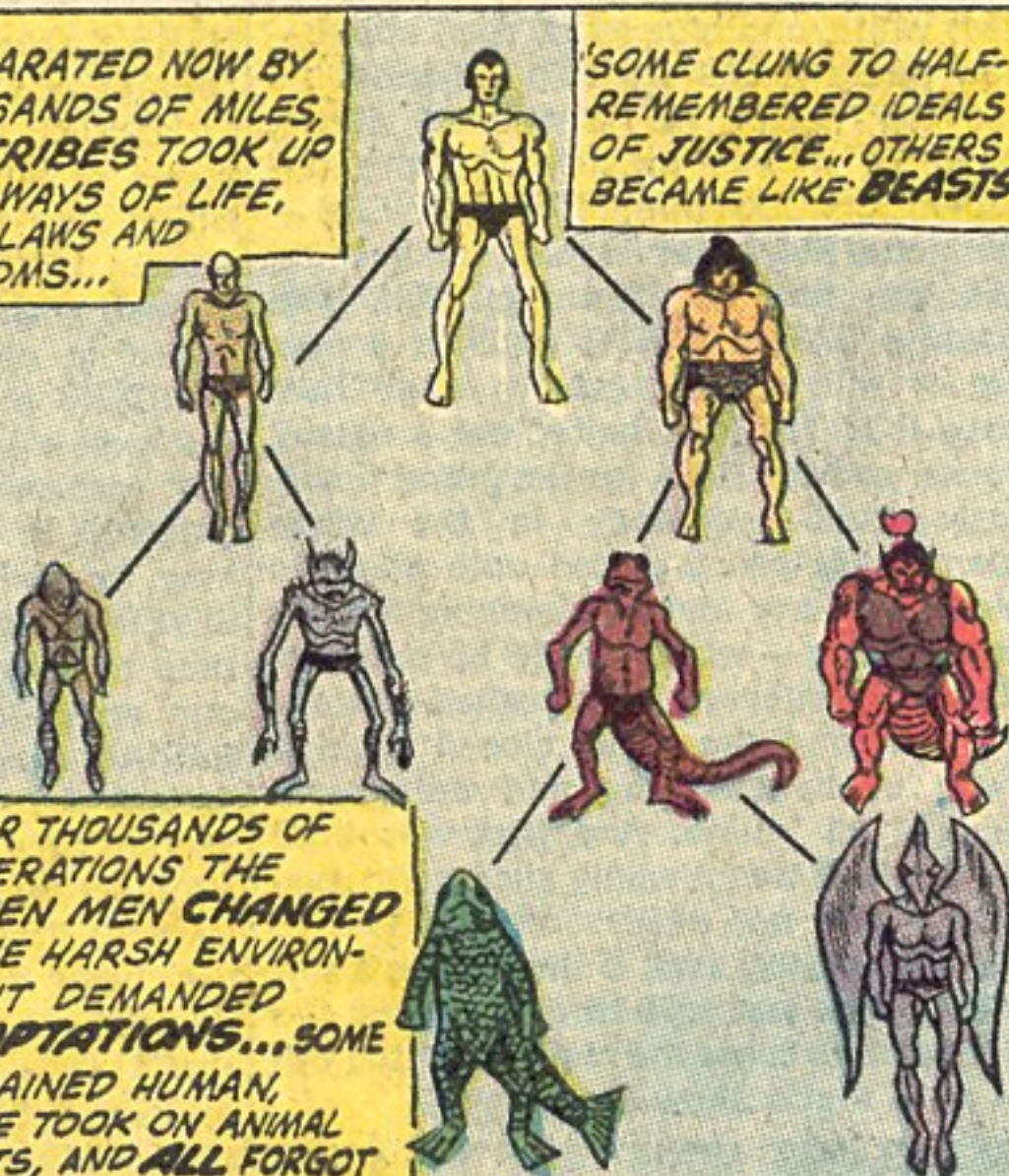
"THEN CAME THE GREAT MIGRATION, AS THE HANDFUL OF GOLDEN MEN THAT LIVED WENT OUT INTO A WILD, HOSTILE WORLD TO SEEK A NEW LIFE!"



"SEPARATED NOW BY THOUSANDS OF MILES, THE TRIBES TOOK UP NEW WAYS OF LIFE, NEW LAWS AND CUSTOMS..."

"SOME CLUNG TO HALF-REMEMBERED IDEALS OF JUSTICE... OTHERS BECAME LIKE **BEASTS**."

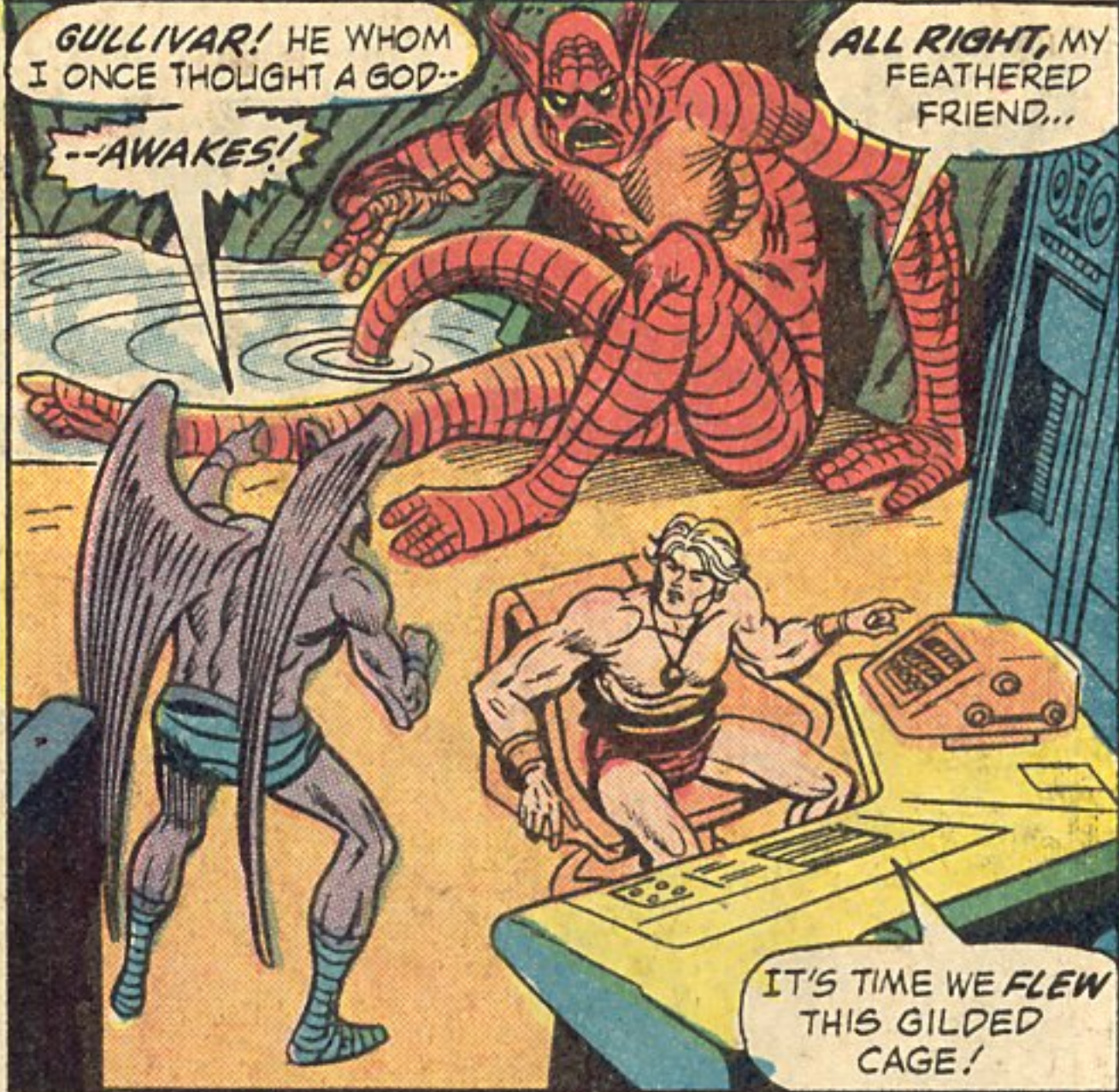
"OVER THOUSANDS OF GENERATIONS THE GOLDEN MEN **CHANGED** ...THE HARSH ENVIRONMENT DEMANDED **ADAPTATIONS**... SOME REMAINED HUMAN, SOME TOOK ON ANIMAL TRAITS, AND **ALL** FORGOT THE GREATNESS OF THEIR ANCESTORS!"



"BUT, BURIED IN THEIR MINDS WERE THE DREAMS OF THE CITIES THEY HAD ONCE POSSESSED..."



"...AND SO, TODAY THEY LIVE BLINDLY, IN IN ABJECT **POVERTY**, FORBIDDEN BY THE TECHNICS GUILD TO **ENTER** THEIR FORMER HOMES-- AND ALL OF THIS TOOK PLACE-- IN THE FOUR BILLIONTH YEAR-- OF THE **SUN**--

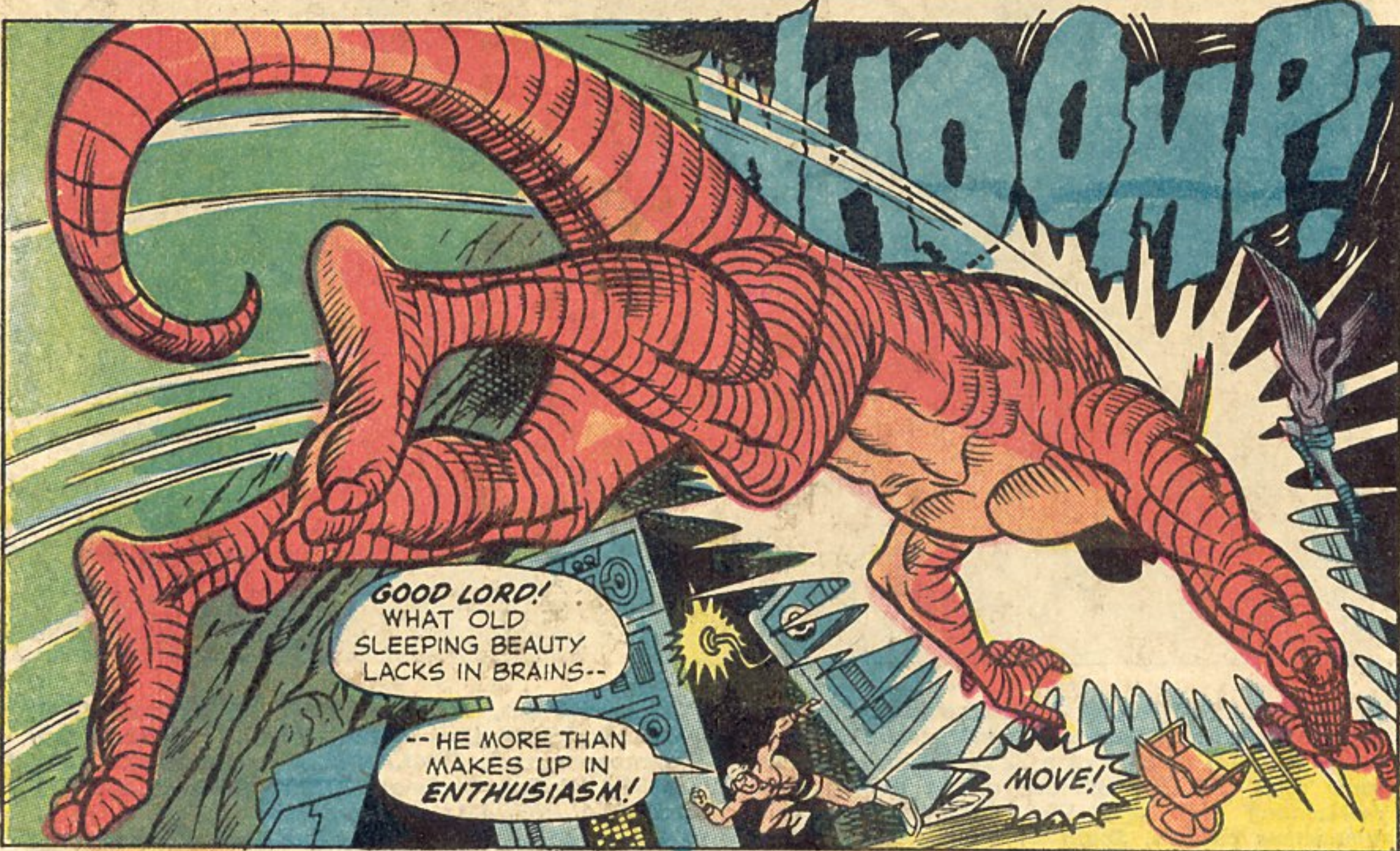


GULLIVAR! HE WHOM I ONCE THOUGHT A GOD--

--AWAKES!

ALL RIGHT, MY FEATHERED FRIEND...

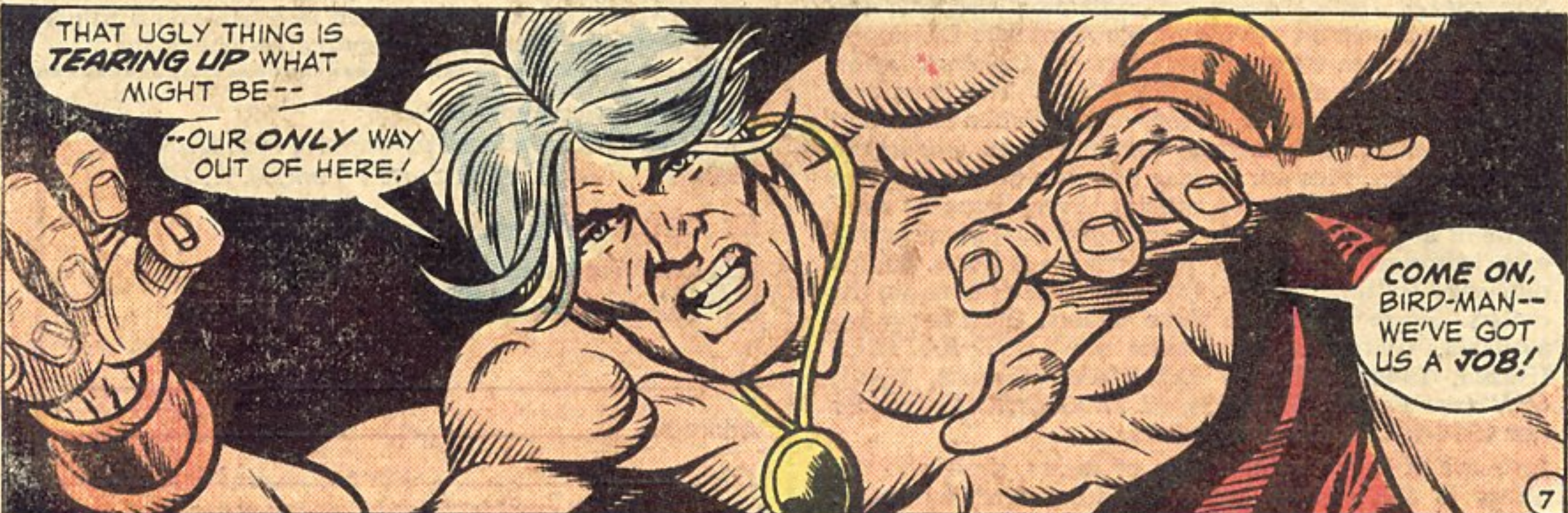
IT'S TIME WE **FLEW** THIS GILDED CAGE!



GOOD LORD! WHAT OLD SLEEPING BEAUTY LACKS IN BRAINS--

-- HE MORE THAN MAKES UP IN **ENTHUSIASM!**

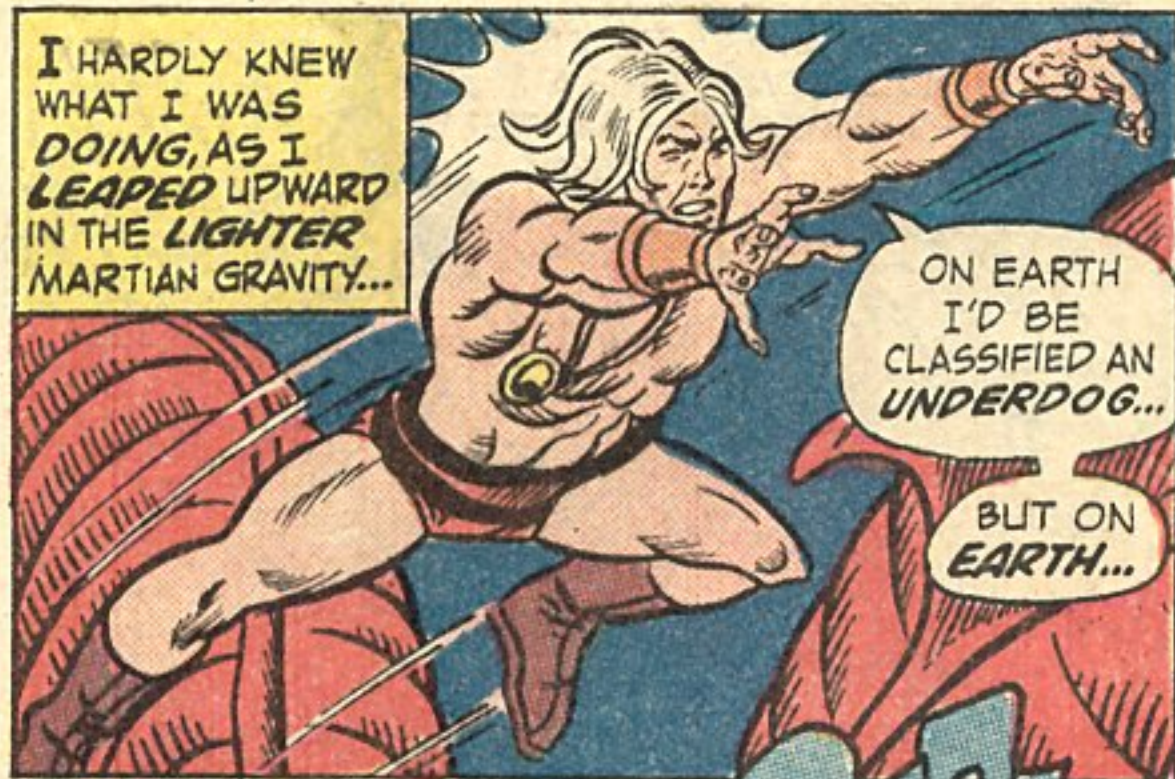
MOVE!



THAT UGLY THING IS **TEARING UP** WHAT MIGHT BE--

--OUR **ONLY** WAY OUT OF HERE!

COME ON, BIRD-MAN-- WE'VE GOT US A **JOB!**



I HARDLY KNEW WHAT I WAS DOING, AS I LEAPED UPWARD IN THE LIGHTER MARTIAN GRAVITY...

ON EARTH I'D BE CLASSIFIED AN UNDERDOG...

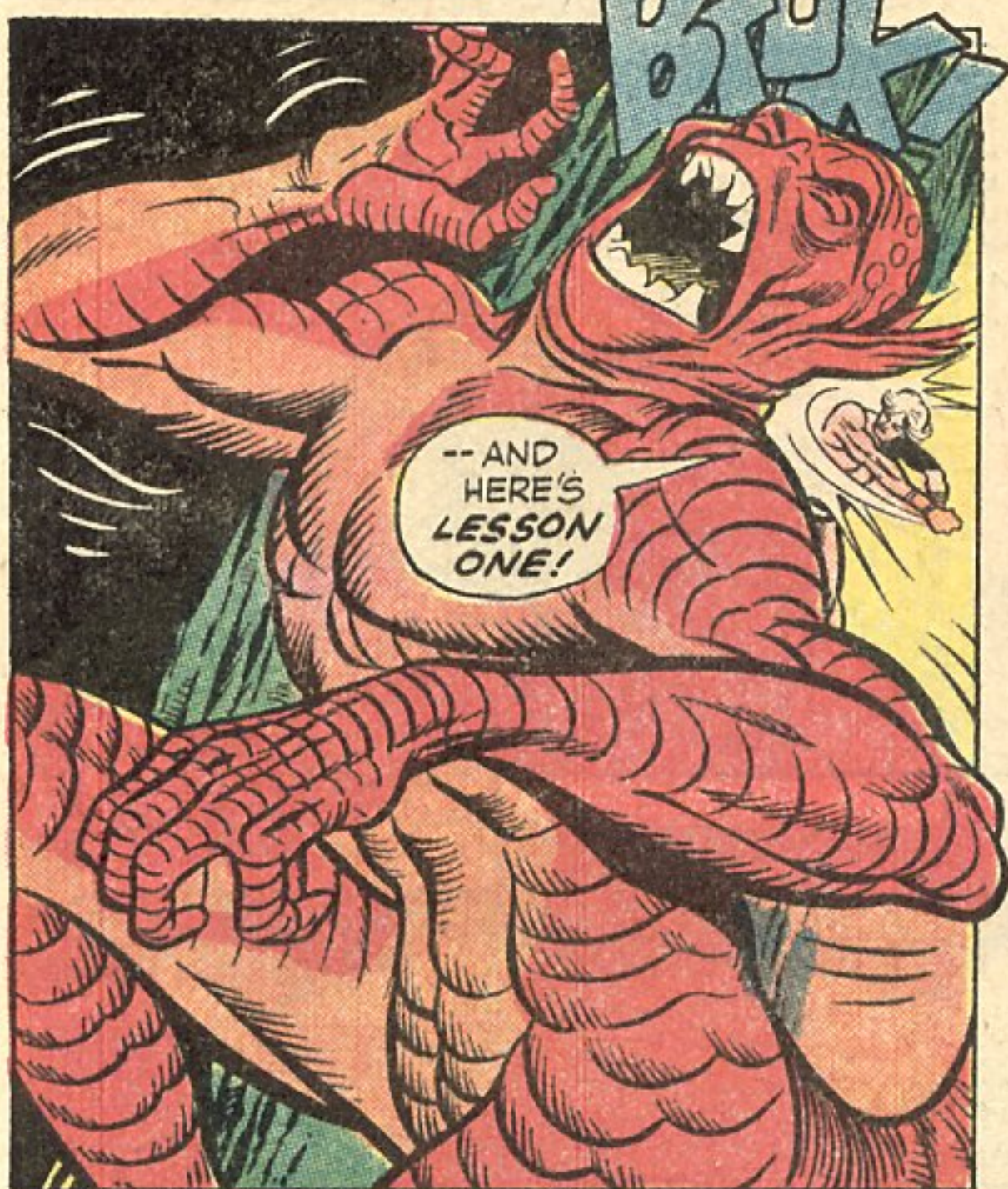
BUT ON EARTH...



... MANKIND HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE PHYSICAL UNDERDOG--

--EVER SINCE WE TURNED THE TREES OVER TO THE MONKEYS!

YOU MARTIANS HAVE A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT WHAT *REALLY* MAKES A MAN--



--AND HERE'S LESSON ONE!



PHRA, MY LAD, I HAVE TWO UNIVERSAL TRUTHS ON MY SIDE...

PAIN, AND--

--FEAR!



TERRIFIC-- HE'S TOO STUPID TO KNOW PAIN!

HE'S GOT ME!



HE WAS A GOD, BUT YOU ARE AS STRONG AS HE--

--AND YOU ARE--

--MY FRIEND!

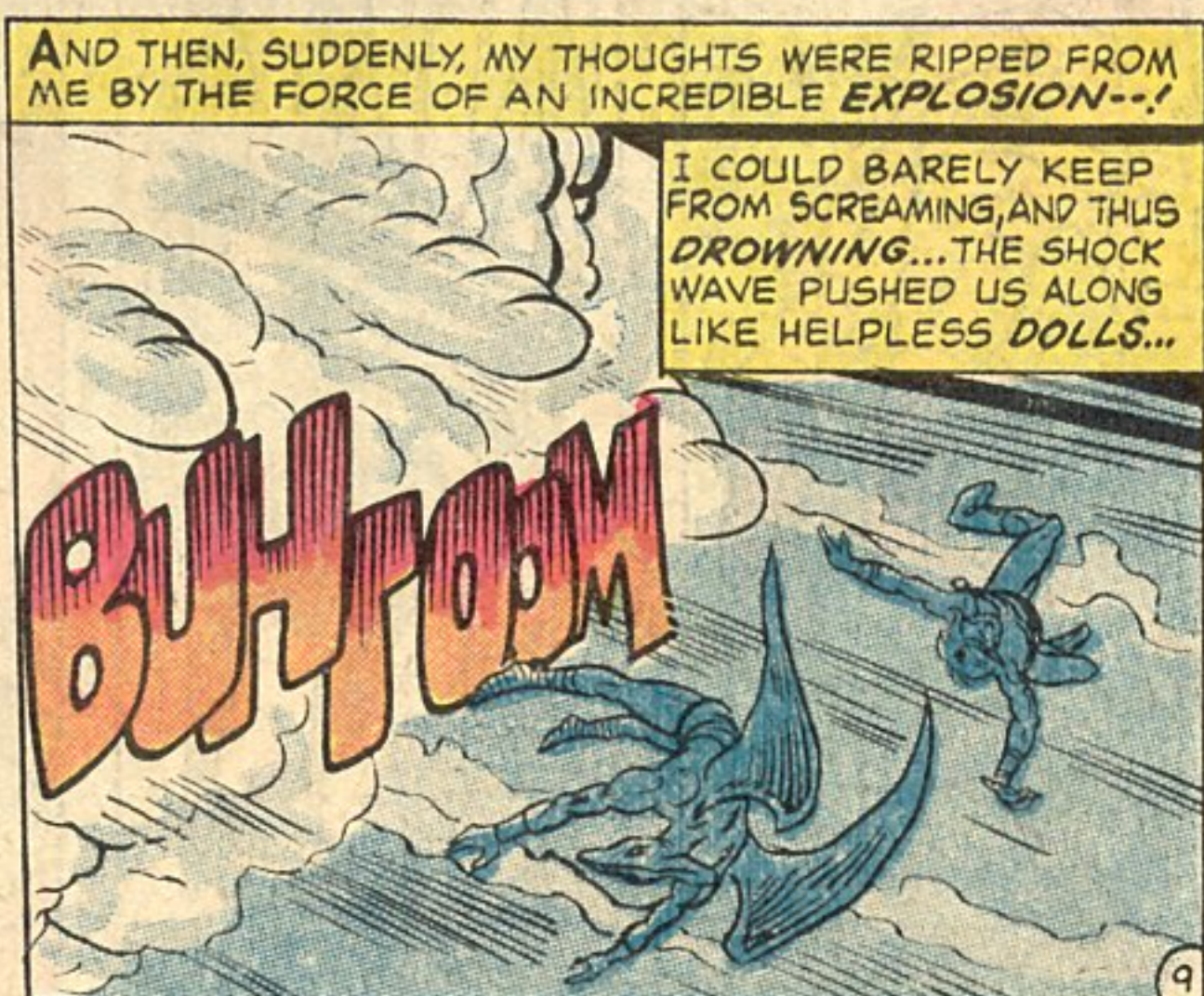
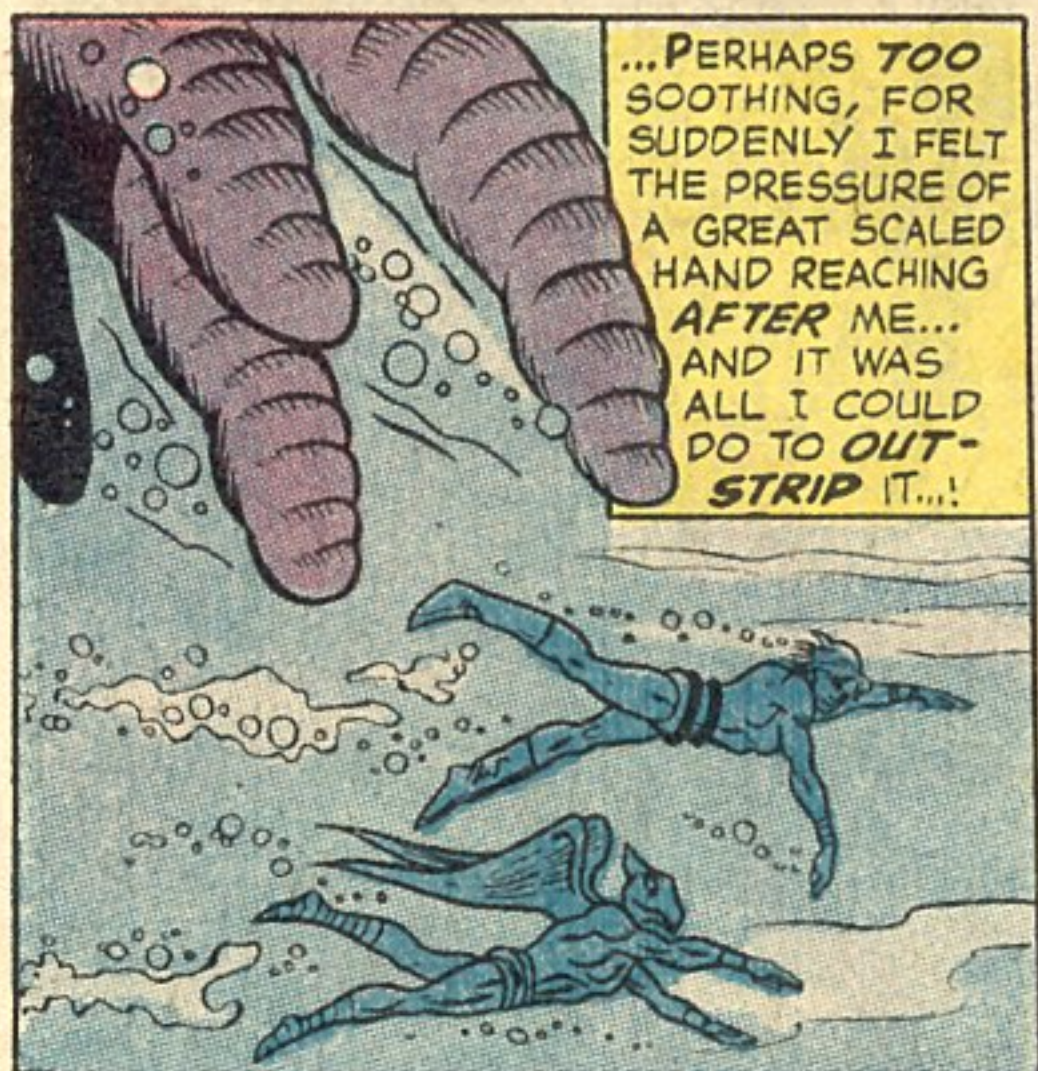
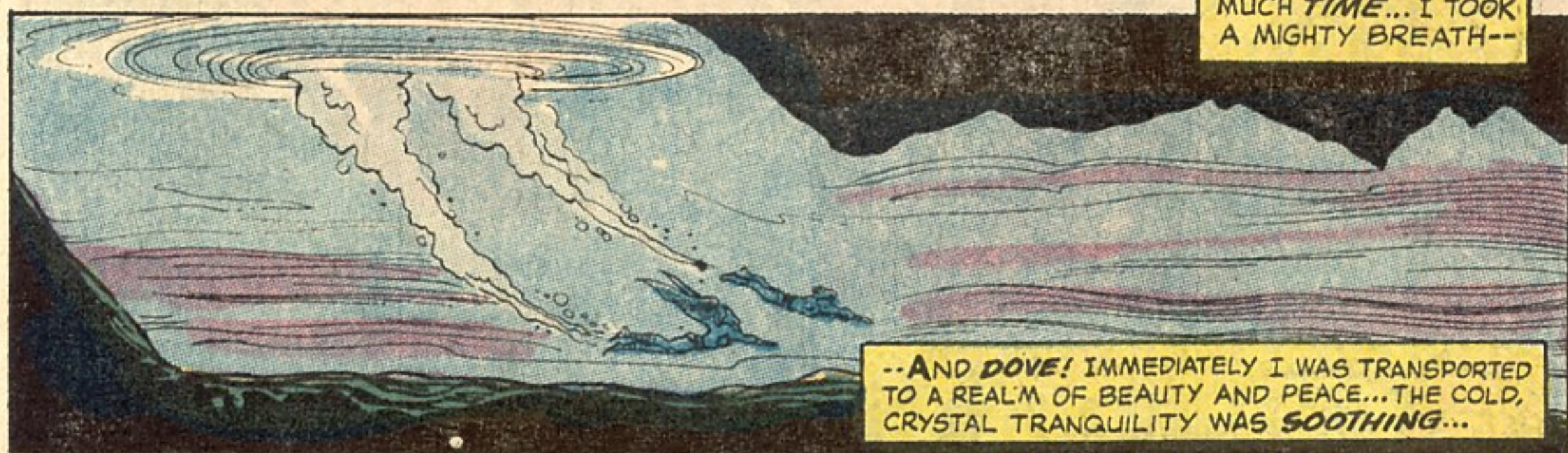
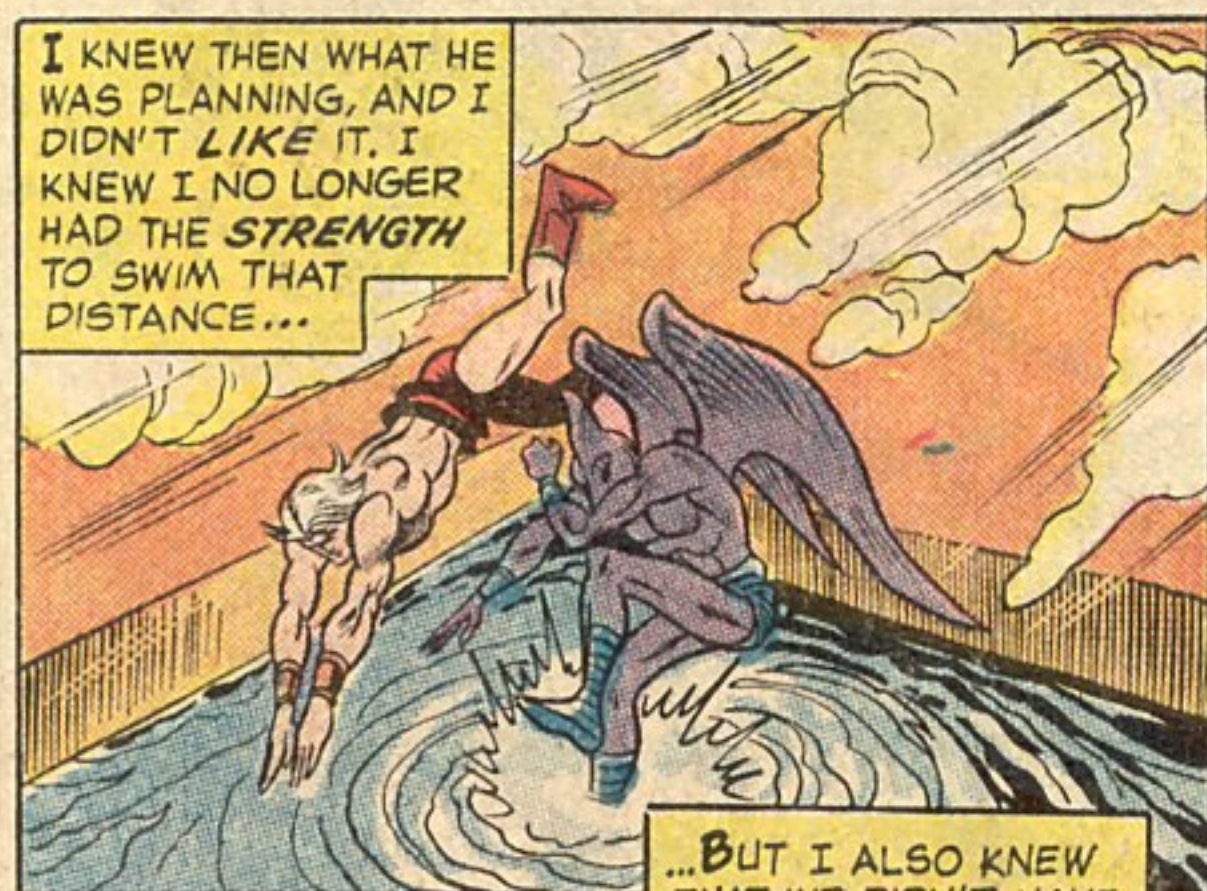


HERE, PHRA!

FOR THE GENERATIONS OF TERROR YOU HAVE CAUSED MY PEOPLE!




PHRA FELL BACK, STUNNED, AS DAZED AS I. MY STRENGTH HAD BEEN SAPPED BY MY ORDEAL--






I FELT THE BLACKNESS OF DEATH CLOSING IN, BUT I FOUGHT IT AWAY...


I TUMBLED ABOUT IN THE WATER, STRUGGLING, KNOWING THAT SOON, SOON...



BUT NO! THE EXPLOSION HAD QUICKENED OUR JOURNEY, AND WE BROKE THE SURFACE WITH A SHOUT, FILLING OUR STARVED LUNGS WITH THE WONDERFUL, COLD AIR...!




BUT INTO WHAT FROZEN VISION HAD WE EMERGED?



THE DEAD! LONG AGO SEALED IN TOMBS OF ICE!

AS ALONE AS I--

--AS TRULY ALONE AS IF I WERE DEAD!

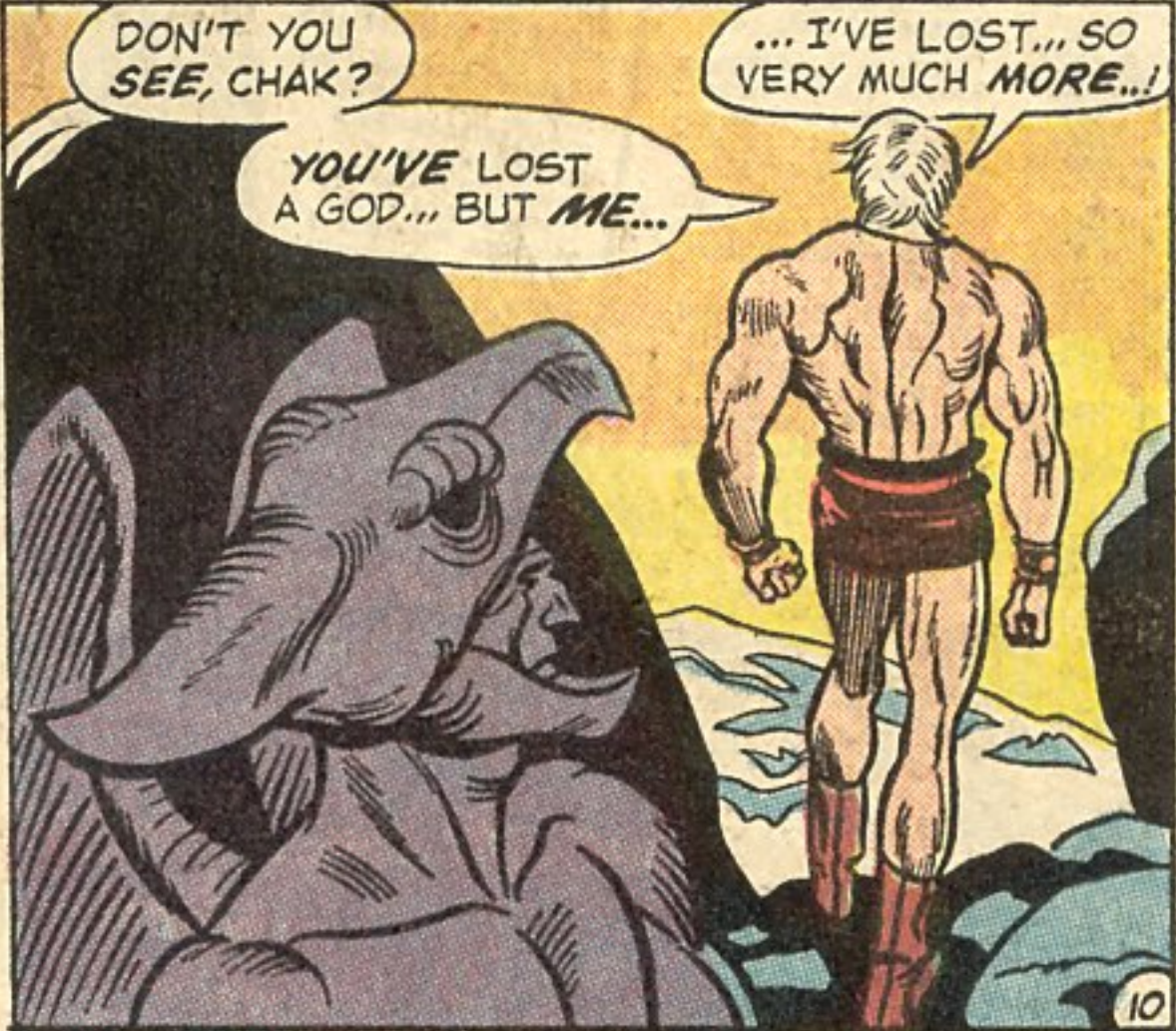


LU-POV, CAN YOU HEAR ME?

THIS ISN'T MY WORLD-- IT ISN'T EVEN MY TIME!

IN MY AGE, THE SUN IS FIVE BILLION YEARS OLD-- NOT FOUR!

THE WORLD I KNOW DOESN'T EVEN EXIST!



DON'T YOU SEE, CHAK?

YOU'VE LOST A GOD... BUT ME...

... I'VE LOST... SO VERY MUCH MORE...!

NEXT ISSUE: **DEATH** on a DYING PLANET!

CREATURES
ON THE LOOSE

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CREATURES

ON THE LOOSE!™

PUNY
HUMAN! YOU
HAVE INVADED
THE LAIR OF
RA-KAR!

AND
HERE--
YOU'LL
DIE!



THE RED BARBARIAN OF MARS!

GULLIVAR JONES, WARRIOR OF MARS!™

"I HEAR CRIES OF 'PEACE, PEACE,'
BUT THERE IS NO PEACE!"
PATRICK HENRY SAID THAT.
I THOUGHT ABOUT IT A LOT,
WHILE I FOUGHT IN ASIA.

"AS FOR ME, GIVE ME LIBERTY
OR GIVE ME DEATH!" HE SAID
THAT, TOO--BUT HE HAD THE
LUXURY OF CHOICE.

THE LONG ROAD TO NOWHERE!

BUT NOT I. I
HAD ONLY THE
TERRIFYING
PROSPECTS OF
OF AN ALIEN
WORLD THRUST
INTO MY
BEWILDERED
HANDS...

... A WORLD WHERE THE DEAD
DRIFT DOWN RIVERS TO BECOME
UNSEEING SENTINELS AT A
POLAR CAP... AND WHERE MY
ONLY FRIEND WAS A MUTANT
WINGMAN WHO COULD NO
LONGER FLY...

Scan by Felt

STAN LEE PRESENTS: GEORGE ALEC EFFINGER * WAYNE BORING, JIM MOONEY, * ROY THOMAS
WRITER & GIL KANE, ARTISTS EDITOR

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MARS! I HAD PLENTY OF TIME TO CURSE LU-POV, THE MARTIAN MYSTIC, AND HIS WEIRD AMULET WHICH HAD PLUCKED ME FROM MY WORLD AND MY TIME--

THERE'S ONE THING I WANT TO KNOW, CHAK...

...WHEN WE GET DOWN THERE, WHERE WILL WE BE?



...BECAUSE FROM THE SOUND OF THINGS, WE WON'T BE ALONE!

SKESH!

I KNOW *NOT*, MY PINK-SKINNED FRIEND,

KNOWLEDGE OF OUR WORLD WAS *LOST* IN THE SAME *DISASTERS* THAT RUINED OUR CIVILIZATIONS.

AND THE CAUSE OF THIS WEIRD SOUND FOLLOWS *ABOVE*... PERHAPS WE SHOULD--



AGGH!

I WAITED FOR THE ICY CHILL TO LEAVE MY WINGS--

--BUT NOW PAIN MAKES ME AS FLIGHT-LESS AS YOU!

IN THE LIGHTER MARTIAN GRAVITY, IT WAS A SIMPLE MATTER TO CHECK THE WINGMAN'S FALL... THEN...

EASY, CHAK! HASTE MAKE WASTE--

--AND ALL WE GOT TO WASTE IS *US*!

THE SOUND GROWS LOUDER!

I WAS WORRIED, MORE WORRIED THAN I'VE EVER BEEN. BUT THERE WAS NOTHING MORE TO BE DONE, SO I PUT MY FEAR AWAY--!



I'VE BEEN IN MORE THAN ENOUGH DESPERATE SITUATIONS, AND I'VE SEEN THAT PANIC SERVES LITTLE PURPOSE--

WE CAN'T GO ON UNTIL YOUR *SHOULDER'S* BETTER...

...AND THIS LETS ME SHOW OFF HOW *OUTDOORSY* I AM.



WE SETTLED IN AS BEST WE COULD, AND TRIED TO SLEEP--

--**B**UT WHATEVER TRAILED US HAD
OTHER IDEAS--

RESKESHHHH!

I CAN'T SLEEP
THROUGH THAT
RACKET...

THERE IS NO *NEED*
FOR A WINGMAN TO
SLEEP, MY FRIEND...

...BUT YOU OUGHT
TO *REST*, CHAK.

...YOU HAVE MUCH
TO *LEARN* ABOUT
OUR *WORLD*.



CHAK WOULD GET
LITTLE ARGUMENT
FROM ME THERE.
I SAW THAT HE
WANTED TO TALK...
I SAID NOTHING.

I, TOO, KNOW A
LITTLE OF HOW
YOU FEEL, MAN
OF ANOTHER
WORLD.

IF I AM SEEN BY
A MEMBER OF
MY RACE...

I HAVE ONLY
HIS *HATRED*...
HIS *DISGUST*...



...**A**LL THAT I HAVE IN COMMON WITH
MY PEOPLE ARE MY WINGS AND MY
SKIN COLOR...

YOU ARE AN
ABOMINATION,
CHAK.

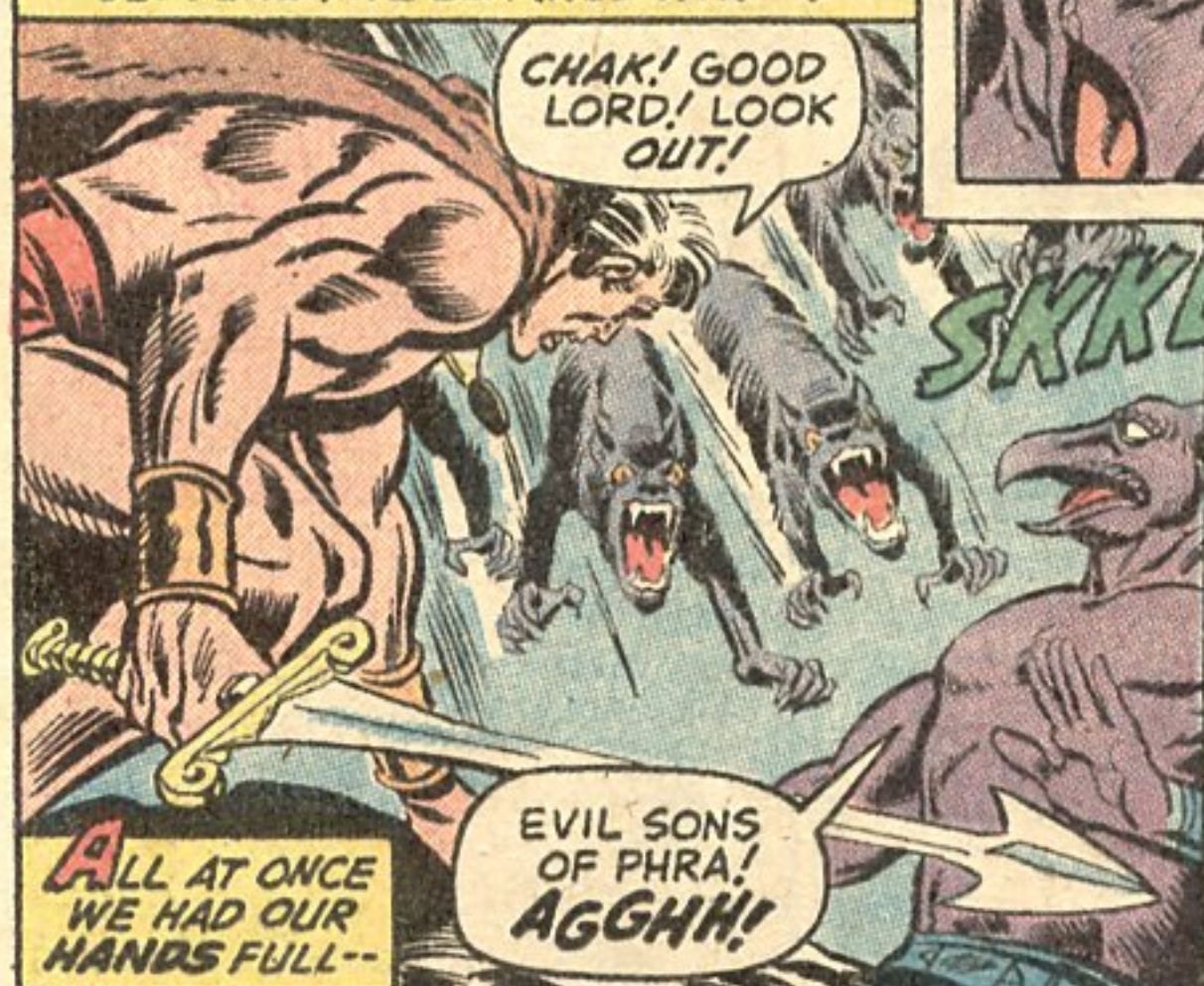
YOUR DISGUISE
IS A *WORSE*
LIE. YOU MUST
GO!



...**I** NEVER FELT LIKE AN
ABOMINATION... BUT I HAD NOWHERE
TO GO...

THE NOISE HAD GROWN LOUDER--
SUDDENLY, WE LEARNED WHY--!

CHAK! GOOD
LORD! LOOK
OUT!



SKKESHSHH!

EVIL SONS
OF PHRA!
AGGHH!

ALL AT ONCE
WE HAD OUR
HANDS FULL--



--**T**HERE SEEMED
TO BE NO END
TO THE DEMONS--!

IF THEY'D STOP FALLING
LONG ENOUGH--

THESE ARE *PARTHS*,
PINKSKIN! THEIR NUMBER
IS *LEGION*! THIS MAY
LAST FOR *DAYS*!



THEN YOU CAN BET
YOUR LAST *BIRD*-
SEED THAT *WE* WON'T!

REKEKKSH

WE WORKED SILENTLY, CLEARING THEM
AWAY--WE WERE EXHAUSTED, AND BADLY
WOUNDED, BUT WE HAD TO STAND--OR DIE!

NO *MORE*
SHALL
ENTER,
GULLIVAR.

THEN GIVE ME
A HAND WITH
THESE, OKAY?

I SUPPOSE
THEY'RE
CUTE...

...BUT THE
LEASE SAID
'NO PETS'!



AT LAST, AT LAST WE FINISHED THEM...

THAT'S THAT. AND I HOPE I NEVER SEE ANOTHER *MINK* STOLE!

I KNOW NOT THE WORD "*MINK*"-- BUT YOU MAY GET YOUR STRANGE WISH.

OUR FIRE HAS GONE OUT!

AS WINTER APPROACHES, HUNGER DRIVES THE DEVILS IN SEARCH OF FOOD...

CHAK WAS RIGHT, OF COURSE--WE COULD ONLY WAIT IN THE FROZEN CAVERN--

AS HE EXPLAINED THAT THE *PARTHS* LIVED WITHIN THE CIRCLE OF THE ICE WALL...

UNTIL THEY FALL BLINDLY OVER THE GREAT POLAR BARRIER...

...RIGHT INTO OUR LAPS! WE DIDN'T NEED THAT!

WHAT WORLD HAVE I BEEN BROUGHT TO?

I CAN'T EVEN TELL MY FRIENDS FROM MY ENEMIES!

YOU MUST LEARN SOON, PINKSKIN.

OR I SHALL BE ONCE AGAIN ALONE!

NEVER IN MY WILDEST IMAGININGS COULD I HAVE FILLED A WORLD WITH SO STRANGE A MIXTURE OF FOLK AS I'D FOUND ON THE MARS OF THE LONG-DEAD PAST...

BUT, AS CHAK SAID, THIS WASN'T MY IMAGINATION...

AND MOST OF THOSE "FOLK" WOULD DEARLY LOVE TO SEE ME DEAD!

I GOT CONTROL OVER MYSELF--I SHOOK OFF THE EFFECTS OF THE EVENING'S BATTLE--

SORRY, CHAK. I MUST BE TIRED.

IT IS NOTHING, MY FRIEND...

IT IS ONLY THE FOOL WHO THINKS HE KNOWS EVERYTHING!

I ONLY WISH I KNEW THAT HERU WAS SAFE...

HERU! WHENEVER THIS MAD WORLD ALLOWED ME A MINUTE'S REST, MY MIND TURNED TO HER--

I COULD NOT SEE WHAT HAD BEFALLEN MY LOVELY GOLDEN PRINCESS, FROM THE MOMENT SHE HAD BEEN STOLEN FROM ME--

--BY LESS FRIENDLY WINGMEN THAN CHAK!



FOR HER FORCED JOURNEY TO THE BARBARIAN STRONGHOLD--

--HAD BEEN STRANGE INDEED...!

YOU FILTHY VERMIN! SOME-DAY YOU WILL BE MOST SORRY FOR THIS!

BE QUIET, NO-BEAK. YOU DID NOT STOP SHOUTING THE ENTIRE JOURNEY.

I AM GLAD TO DELIVER HER TO THE RED ONES, AS PER OUR TREATY WITH THEM.

HERE, YOU BEAKED MONSTERS. --THE WING-WOMEN YOU LEFT AS HOSTAGES.

YOU WINGED CREATURES EVEN MAKE BAD SLAVES.

NOW, GET OUT BEFORE WE CHANGE OUR MINDS.

TO CHANGE A MIND YOU MUST FIRST HAVE ONE, TAILED ONE.

SOME DAY THOSE WINGFOLK WILL REGRET THEIR INSOLENCE.

BUT NOW LET US TAKE THIS ONE TO AR-HAP.

BUT FIRST, SHE MUST LEARN INTO WHOSE HANDS SHE HAS BEEN DELIVERED...





HERE WE ARE, MY SPIRITED SLAVE--

--WHERE WE LEARN YOUR REAL COURAGE.

I AM A PRINCESS OF THE GOLDEN BLOOD. YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR.

AH, MY HAUGHTY ONE, BUT YOU DO!



EVERY YEAR A WOMAN IS GIVEN TO AR-HAP BY THE TREMBLING PEOPLE OF YOUR TRIBE...

...A TRIBUTE, YOU SEE. AND AR-HAP LET'S YOU LIVE YOUR POOR LIVES.

IN HERE IS LAST YEAR'S FORTUNATE YELLOWSKIN.



HERE, YOU SCRAWNY BEAST--

--ENJOY YOUR COMPANY!



HERU!

CHEA! IT IS YOU! HOW GLAD I AM TO SEE YOU!

I CANNOT SAY THE SAME, MY PRINCESS.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

THEY WILL COME AGAIN, WHEN THE SMALLER MOON PASSES BEFORE THE LARGER--

--AND THEN I MUST BE DEAD.

WHAT?



IT IS TRUE...

IF YOU DO NOT SACRIFICE ME, THEN YOU WILL BE KILLED--

--AND I SHALL LIVE ANOTHER YEAR WITH AR-HAP...



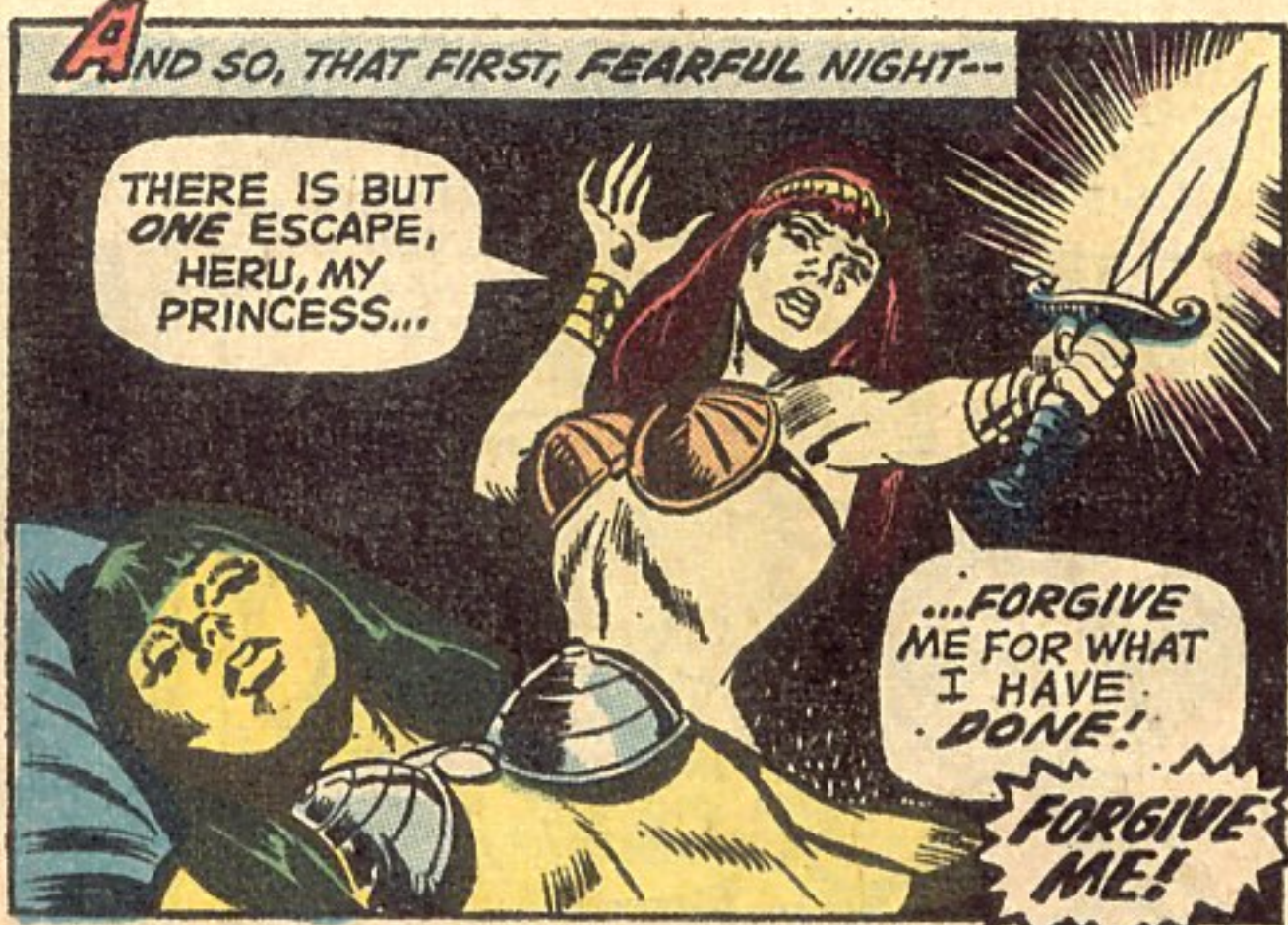
...AND I WOULD RATHER DIE!



COURAGE, LITTLE ONE. WHAT IF NEITHER OF US TAKES UP THAT FOUL BLADE?

THEN WE BOTH DIE, MY PRINCESS.

THERE IS ONLY ESCAPE, THEN.



AND SO, THAT FIRST, FEARFUL NIGHT-- THERE IS BUT ONE ESCAPE, HERU, MY PRINCESS...

...FORGIVE ME FOR WHAT I HAVE DONE!

FORGIVE ME!



LET US LEAVE THIS CHILLING TABLEAU, RETURNING TO A SCENE OF ANOTHER KIND OF COLDNESS--!

THIS AMULET THE OLD WIZARD LU-POV GAVE ME--

IT MUST HAVE MORE POWERS THAN I KNEW!

MY WOUNDS ARE ALREADY HEALED!

YOU ARE FORTUNATE, GULLIVAR, MY FRIEND.

SURE, CHAK. IF YOU SAY SO.

WHAT COMPENSATION, TO GET THIS HEALING BALM IN TRADE FOR A WHOLE WORLD?



IT OCCURRED TO ME TO LEND THE AMULET TO CHAK, FOR HIS WOUNDS MIGHT FATALLY RETARD OUR JOURNEY--

CHEDEK JEN LEDEJ KELED AKEDEK!

WITHOUT THE AMULET, I CAN'T UNDERSTAND YOU, CHAK...

AND--THE FATIGUE I FELT BEFORE--IT'S ALL COMING BACK TO ME!

WELL, AT LEAST THOSE PARTHS ARE GONE, NOW. WE SHOULD BE, TOO.



IT SEEMED THAT THE AMULET PERFORMED MANY KINDS OF SERVICES FOR ITS WEARER. I BEGAN TO THINK BETTER OF OF OLD LU-POV--

CAN YOU UNDERSTAND ME NOW?

I JUST SAID THAT I FEEL STRONGER ALREADY.

YES, I'M GETTING A LOT OF--

I'LL SEND YOU TO YANG, VILE SPAWN OF AN ORDLUP!

I THOUGHT THE AMULET HAD ROBBED CHAK OF HIS REASON-- I SAW NOTHING FOR HIM TO TAKE OFFENSE AT--



--I HEARD ONLY AN ANGRY HISSING--I COULD SEE...NOTHING!

WHAT IS IT, CHAK?

STAY BEHIND, MY FRIEND! I SHALL DEFEND YOU.

AAGGH! MY ARM ...STILL TOO WEAK!

SSSSST!





YOU'RE *NOT* INDESTRUCTIBLE, AFTER ALL--

--YOU'RE REALLY ALMOST *HUMAN*--

--ALMOST!

THE STROKE HAD HURT THE CREATURE--AND MY CONFIDENCE DANGERED ME EVEN MORE--



GOOD LORD! THE AMULET...

...CHAK... WHAT..?

IT'S MAKING ME SEE THINGS-- VISIONS OF FAR AWAY-- VISIONS OF...



HERU!

AS I PUT THE AMULET AROUND MY NECK, THE WORLD DIMMED AWAY--MY EYES OPENED ON ANOTHER SCENE--I WAS HELPLESS--



--*NOT* SO MY ENEMY!

RRRAAGHH!

HERU!



WHACK!

THE PAIN ERASED BOTH WORLDS...BEAUTIFUL HERU, AND THE BRUTISH MONSTER...! I LAY SENSELESS, AND I RESTED AT LAST--



PERHAPS FOREVER...!

NEXT:
THE ENIGMA OF
AR-HAP!

CREATURES
ON THE LOOSE

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CREATURES ON THE LOOSE!

CAN THE
WARRIOR OF MARS
SAVE THE WOMAN HE LOVES,
BEFORE SHE BECOMES--THE
BRIDE OF THE
BARBARIAN?



THE MONSTER-- AND THE MAIDEN!

GULLIVAR JONES, WARRIOR OF MARS!™



STAN LEE PRESENTS: GEORGE ALEC EFFINGER, WRITER, GRAY MORROW, ARTIST, SAM ROSEN, LETTERER, ROY THOMAS, EDITOR

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LISTEN, CHAK, JUST BECAUSE NATIONS HAVE MILITARY LAWS--

--THAT DOESN'T MEAN THEY'RE NOT BRUTAL SAVAGES WHEN THEY WANT TO BE!

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND YOUR WORLD, MY FRIEND.

NOW I WORRY ONLY THAT YOU ARE UNFIT TO MEET THIS CHALLENGE.



I HAD GOOD TEACHERS, BIRDMAN! THEY SHOWED ME TWELVE WAYS TO KILL A MAN WITHOUT MOVING MY WRIST.

THEY NEVER TAUGHT US ABOUT UGLY HUMANOID MONSTERS, THOUGH!

RRAARGH!

THOKK!

WITH THE AMULET, THE CREATURE WAS PLAIN AS DAY--MY HEEL MET HIS CHIN WITH A RE-ASSURING JOLT-- BUT THE BRUTE SUFFERED LESS THAN MY OWN DAZED BODY...

GET HIM NOW, CHAK! WHILE HE'S STUNNED!



IF ONLY-- MY WINGS-- WILL HOLD ME---

WE WILL SEE HOW QUICKLY I LEARN--!

YOUR TURN, CHAK! THERE --WHERE I'M POINTING!

WE WERE A GREAT PAIR-- I, COMPLETELY USELESS NOW, EXHAUSTED-- AND CHAK, HIS INJURED WINGS UNABLE TO HIM LONG ALOFT-- BUT WE HAD SOMETHING BETTER-- WE HAD CO-OPERATION...



WITH PHRA'S HELP...

--I GOT HIM--!

KKKRAAKK!

AYAAH!



THAT'S IT, CHAK! LET ME HELP YOU FINISH HIM!

NO NEED, MY PINK FRIEND-- A LENGTHY FALL SHALL FINISH HIM BEST--

--OR RATHER, THE SUDDEN STOP AT ITS END--!

FOR ANOTHER BRIEF MOMENT WE KNEW PEACE--- BUT SOON OUR TRAVAIL WOULD BEGIN ANEW--- WE FACED A CLIMB DOWN THAT MASSIVE MOUNTAIN OF ICE--- AND FROM THERE--- WHO KNEW--?

EVEN MY **EARTH-TRAINED** MUSCLES ARE WORN OUT, CHAK--

---BUT UNTIL YOUR **SHOULDER HEALS**, WE'LL HAVE TO TRAVEL REAL **FRIENDLY-LIKE!**



I OWE YOU **THANKS**, GULLIVAR. EASILY YOU COULD **ABANDON** ME TO MY **DOOM**.

THAT WASN'T **LIKELY**-- CHAK AND I WERE **WELL-MATCHED**--- ALONE ON A HOSTILE WORLD, OUR HOMES **FORBIDDEN** TO EACH OF US---

THE FACT THAT I STILL **LIVED** I OWED TO CHAK, MY **MENTOR** ON THIS WEIRD PLANET. WHAT STRANGE MEN WALKED THIS **MARS**---A MARS COUNTLESS **EONS** BEFORE MY OWN TIME---

-- CHAK WAS MY ONLY **GUIDE**--- MORE, HE WAS MY ONLY LINK WITH **SANITY**--!

WE'RE NEARLY **DOWN**, CHAK, BUT BE CAREFUL--

--A FALL FROM **FIFTY FEET**'LL DO THE SAME AS **FIVE HUNDRED!**



DO NOT **WORRY**, PINKSKIN! THERE'S A **GOOD LEDGE** HERE-- WE SHOULD **CAMP** TONIGHT ON THE **PLAIN!**

AT LAST! I NEVER WANT TO SEE AN **ICE CUBE** AGAIN!

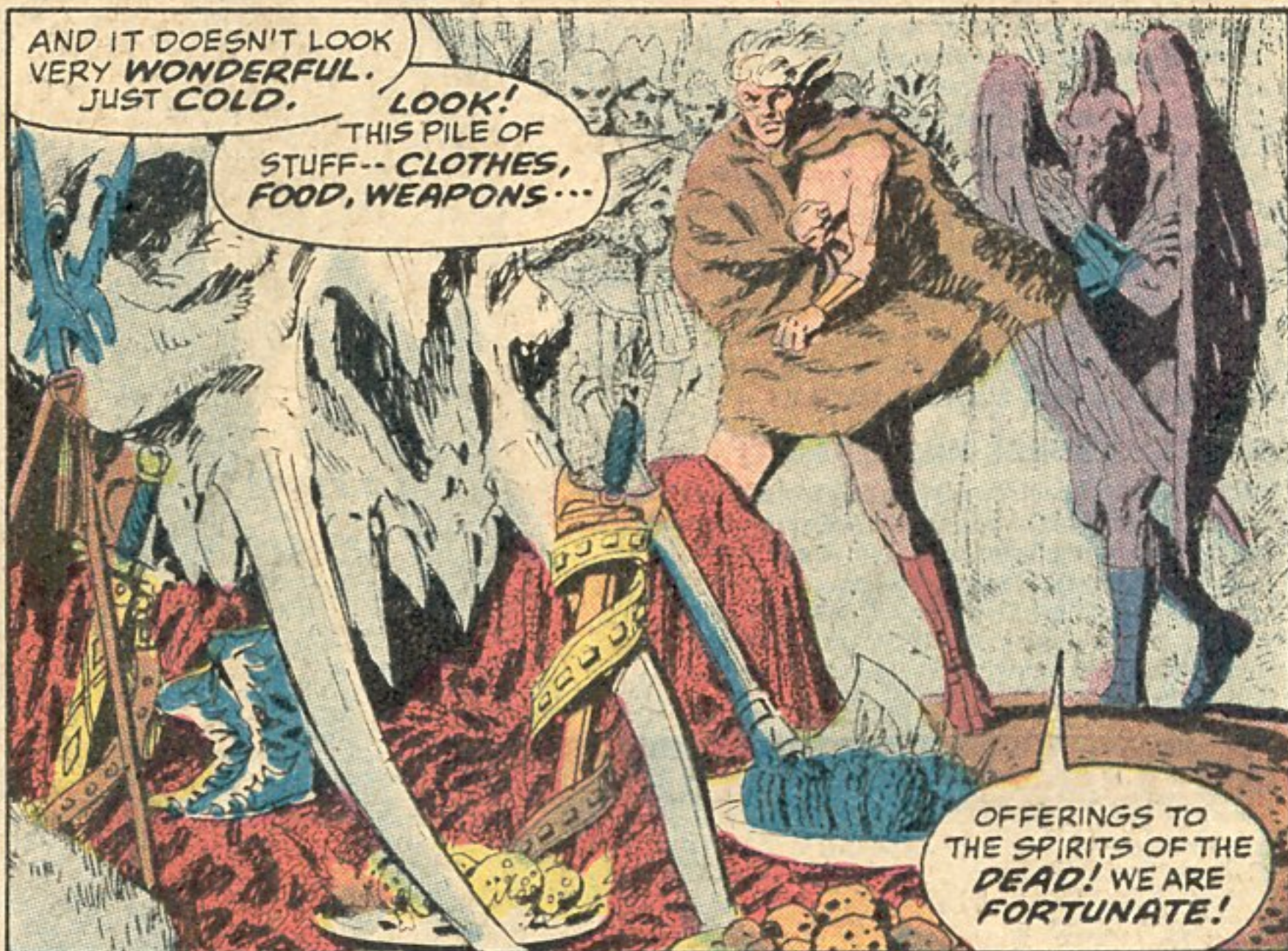
I SHARE YOUR **SENTIMENTS**. WHAT **PLANS** HAVE YOU MADE?

WELL, NOT **MANY**, EXACTLY. I WAS WAITING TO SEE WHAT IT LOOKED LIKE DOWN **HERE**--



AND IT DOESN'T LOOK VERY **WONDERFUL**. JUST **COLD**.

LOOK! THIS PILE OF **STUFF**-- **CLOTHES**, **FOOD**, **WEAPONS**---



OFFERINGS TO THE **SPIRITS OF THE DEAD!** WE ARE **FORTUNATE!**

YES--AS LONG AS WE DON'T RUN INTO THE **LOCAL CONGREGATION!**

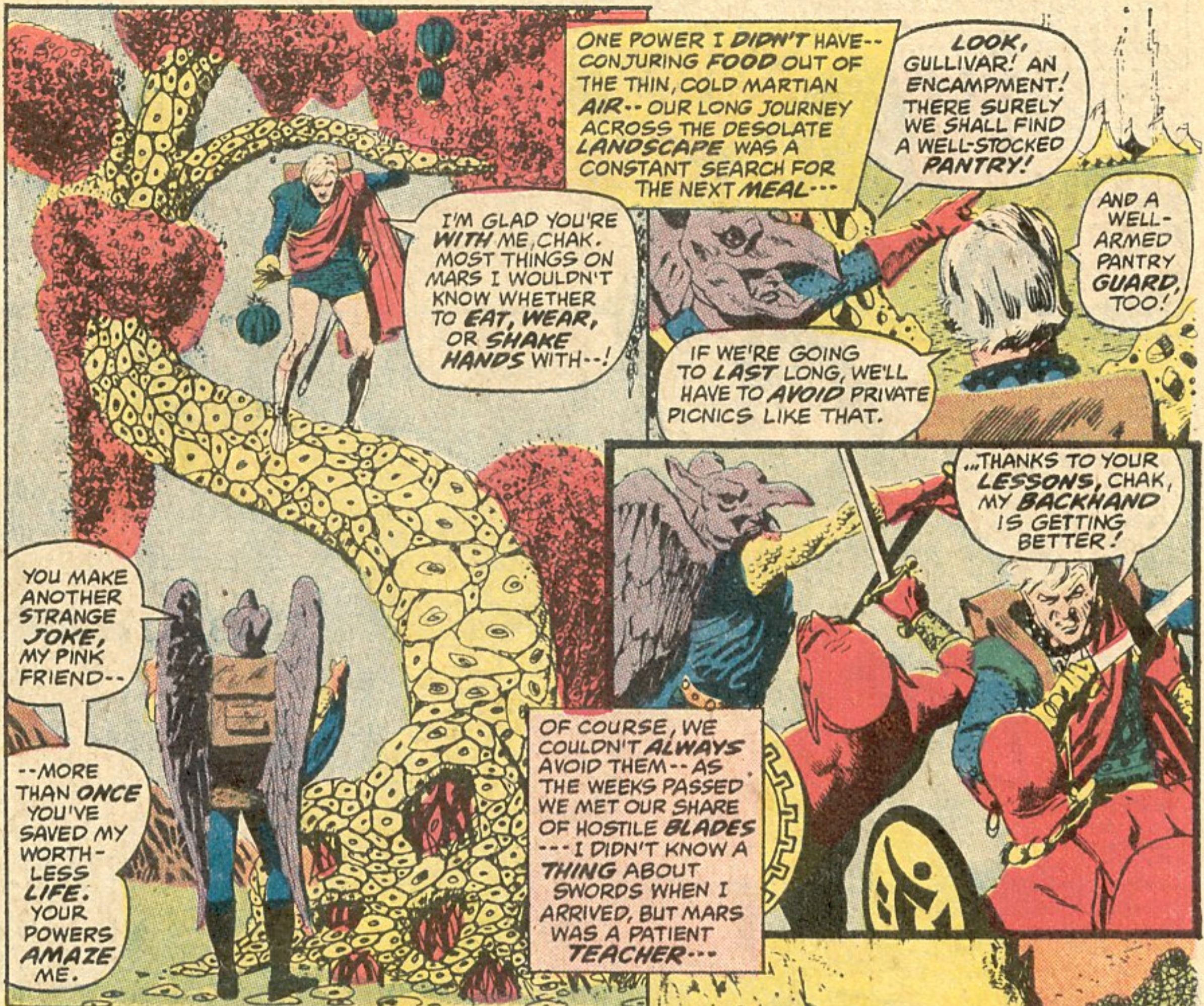
I FEAR **NOT**. YOUR **AMULET** HAS ALREADY RESTORED MY **HEALTH**, MY **STRENGTH**

--THOUGH I MUST WEAR THIS **MASK** TO LOOK LIKE A **TRUE WINGMAN**...

...INSTEAD OF A **MERE HUMAN**.

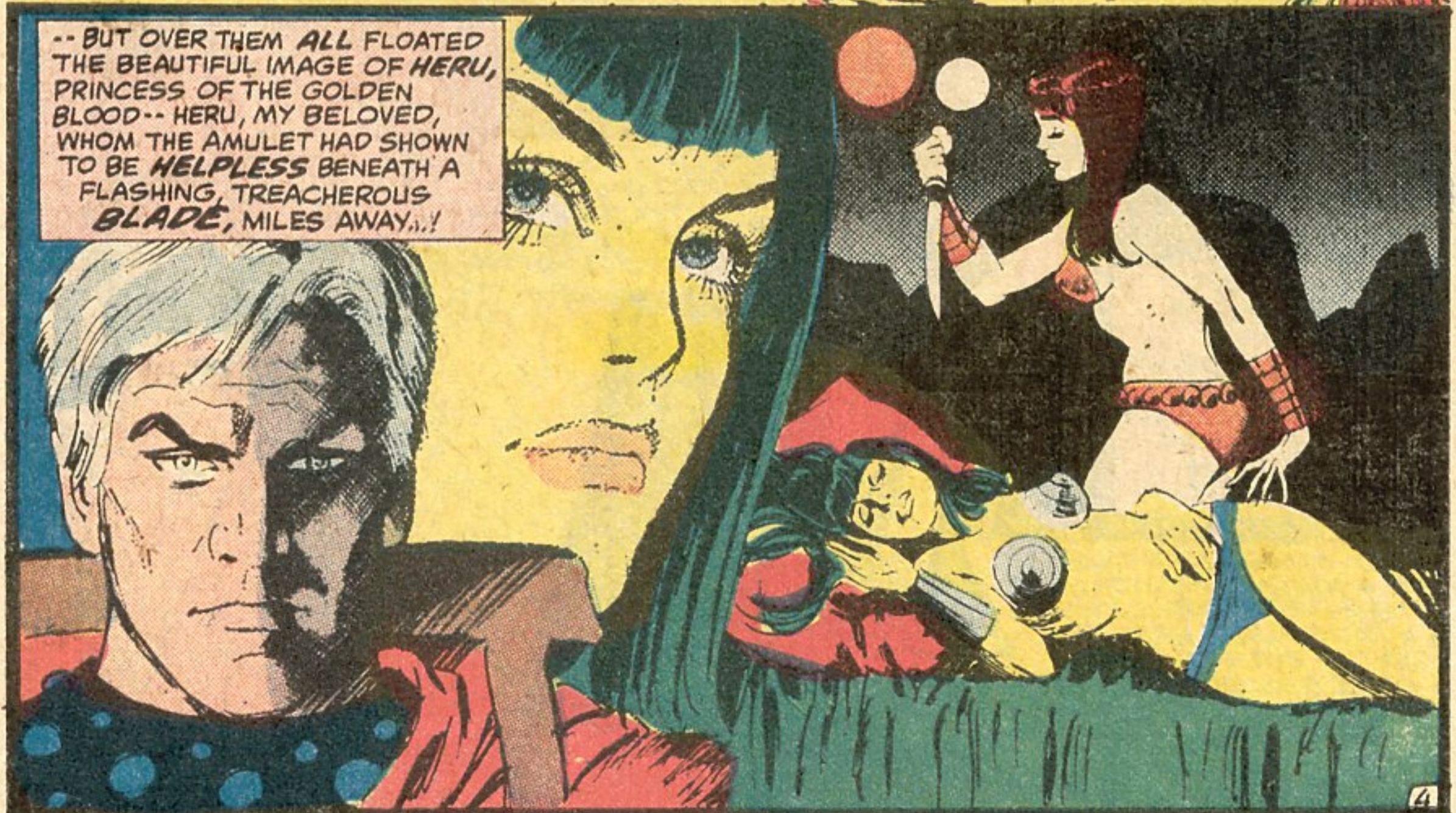


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THE WHOLE TRIP MIGHT HAVE BEEN A PLEASANT
LARK, IF I COULD HAVE **FORGOTTEN** ITS
REASON. HUNDREDS OF **LEAGUES** ACROSS
THAT DESERT VISTA WE MARCHED-- WE SAW
SIGHTS NO MAN OF EARTH COULD **IMAGINE**---

-- BUT OVER THEM **ALL** FLOATED
THE BEAUTIFUL IMAGE OF **HERU**,
PRINCESS OF THE GOLDEN
BLOOD-- HERU, MY BELOVED,
WHOM THE AMULET HAD SHOWN
TO BE **HELPLESS** BENEATH A
FLASHING, TREACHEROUS
BLADE, MILES AWAY...!



THE STRANGE TELEPATHIC VISION THE AMULET GRANTED ME FADED BENEATH THE **FISTS** OF THE INVISIBLE ICE-DWELLER. FOR WEEKS NOW I HAD TRAVELED, **IGNORANT** OF THE **TRUE SITUATION**---MY GRIEVING HEART COULD NOT KNOW HOW **FALSE** THAT LIGHTNING INSTANT HAD **BEEN**---

CHEA, LITTLE ONE! **WAKE UP!** WE MUST PLOT **ESCAPE!**

OH, NO! CHEA, YOU KNEW ONE OF US HAD TO **PERISH** THIS NIGHT--

--THAT THE **OTHER** MIGHT LIVE ONE YEAR MORE AS THE **BRIDE OF AR-HAP**. AND SO-- **THIS!!**

OH, SAD CHEA, HAVE YOU SHOWN ME THE **WAY?** IS THAT FOUL **KNIFE** THE ONLY **ANSWER?**

YES, YES, SOON I SHALL BE MAD ENOUGH TO TAKE IT UP WITH **JOY**--!

THERE WERE BUT **TWO** CHOICES FOR THE BEAUTIFUL GOLDEN PRINCESS-- A CURSED **MARRIAGE** WITH **AR-HAP**, MURDEROUS KING OF THE RED BARBARIANS-- OR **DEATH**--!

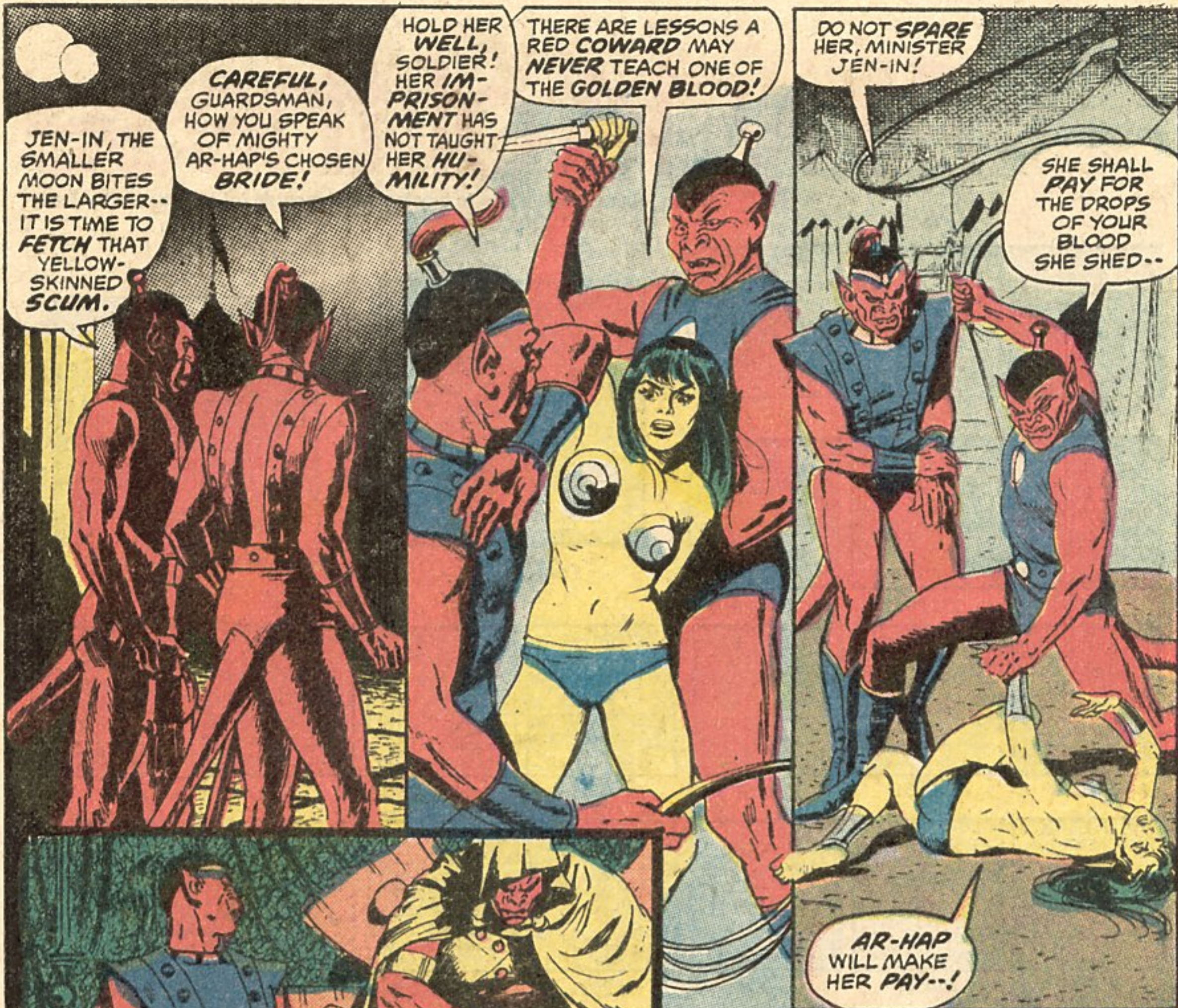
HERU WAS HERSELF DAUGHTER OF A **KING**-- INHERITOR OF THE TARNISHED **GLORY** OF THE ROYAL **GOLDEN RACE** OF MARS-- BUT EVEN SUCH A NOBLE SOUL AS **HERS** MIGHT AT LAST KNOW **DESPAIR**---

WITH CHEA'S **SUICIDE**, HERU WAS **SAVED**-- BUT THE LOVELY PRINCESS HAD STILL TO PASS THE **REST** OF HER LONELY TEST, THE RED LIZARDMEN GAVE HER SMALL **RATIONS**--- THE DAYS MOVED PAST IN THEIR AWFUL TRAIN-- WITH THE LIFELESS, HAUNTING FORM OF CHEA AS HER ONLY **COMPANY**---

IF ONLY I HAD NOT SEEN GULLIVAR **KILLED**--- THEN THERE'D BE **HOPE**-- FOR WHO **ELSE** WOULD AID ME NOW?

AH, THAT **LIGHT**--! EVEN NOW THE SMALLER MOON **ECLIPSES** THE LARGER-- MY FATEFUL TRIAL IS AT AN **END**.

WHY DO I PITY POOR **CHEA**, AND NOT **MYSELF**? HAVE I **ACCEPTED** MY DOOM? NO, **NEVER!**



GUARDSMAN, REMOVE THIS BEAST! HE WHO'D MAR SUCH BEAUTY IS NOT WORTHY OF MY FAVOR--- FLOG HIM!

BUT, MY LORD--! YOU, WHO HAVE SLAUGHTERED HELPLESS VILLAGES--! SURELY A SINGLE YELLOW WOMAN---

SILENCE! TAKE HIM AWAY!

YOU SEE, GOLDEN ONE, I AM NOT SUCH A MONSTER AS I SEEM-- I BUT RESERVE MERCY FOR THE DESERVING!

THEN YOUR STANDARDS ARE INHUMANLY HIGH---

OR, RATHER, UNHUMANLY, FOR ONLY A MONSTER WOULD KEEP ME CAPTIVE HERE!

FAIR OF FACE THOUGH YOU BE, STILL YOU HAVE THE FEEBLE MIND OF YOUR RACE--!

KNOW YOU NOT THAT I OFFER YOU A THRONE, A SHARE OF THESE TREASURES?

FIND ME AGAIN THAT DAGGER, AND YOU WILL HAVE A QUICK REPLY!

WITLESS DAUGHTER OF PHRA, I'LL--

--I'LL-- GANOTH HELP ME--- GUARD, QUICKLY--!

ONCE MORE, ALONE, I FACE MY CURSE! MY SHADOW SELF-- MY ONLY AND TERRIBLE WEAKNESS!

NOT WEAKNESS, VILE ONE --I AM YOUR HONOR, ALL THAT DIVIDES YOU FROM THE MINDLESS CREATURES OF THE DESERT!

IN A MOMENT, I SHALL HAVE CONTROL--

--TAKE-- WOMAN-- MAKE READY --WEDDING --NOW--

--LEAVE ME!

NOT NOW! PLEASE, NOT NOW!

THE GUARDS DRAG A CONFUSED HERU OUT AND THEN--

IT IS WELL THAT I, **HELPLESS** SO MANY MARTIAN MILES AWAY, COULD NOT KNOW OF HERU'S **TRIAL**...

THERE, CHAK, THAT BLuish STAR-- THAT'S EARTH -- MY HOME!

WHAT WE CALL **FER-KEL**. BUT OUR SCIENTISTS TELL US THAT WORLD IS **BARE**, A FIERY, **LIFELESS** BALL.

SO IT IS, CHAK, **NOW**-- BUT I HAVE CROSSED A GULF OF **YEARS** AS EASILY AS THE **INSANE** **DISTANCE**!

IT IS A LOVELY **SKY**, MY FRIEND-- HOW STRANGE TO HAVE BUT **ONE** MOON, AS YOUR PEOPLE DO...

STILL, IN BUT **THREE** NIGHTS SO SHALL WE, IN A WAY, WHEN THE SMALLER **ECLIPSES** THE LARGER--!

THUS, ONLY THREE DAYS FROM HERU'S FORCED **MARRIAGE**, I WAS EVER **MORE** THE PAWN OF **FATE**--!

THE NEXT DAY--

LOOK, CHAK, IN THE **SKY**!

WINGMEN, PINKSKIN--MY PEOPLE...

-- UNLESS MEN HAVE LEARNED TO BUILD FLYING **MACHINES**! HAH!

WELL, NO **HIDING** THIS TIME! I'M TIRED OF BEING **PUSHED AROUND** BY THIS WORLD!

IT IS THAT **MUTANT** HORROR, CHAK, AND HIS PINKSKIN COMPANION.

THEY ARE TWO, AND WE ARE **FIVE**, COWARDLY ONE!

YOU HAVE MUCH TO **LEARN** ABOUT US, MY "**BROTHERS**"!

UNHH!

CAREFUL, GRET! WE HAVE HEARD **TALES** OF THE PINK ONE'S **STRENGTH**!

WE FOUGHT **WELL**, BUT WE COULD NOT PREVAIL AGAINST THEIR **NUMBERS**... CHAK AND I WERE **SPLIT APART**. WITH NO ONE TO GUARD OUR **BACKS**, WE WERE SOON **DISARMED**...

PHRA **SMILES** ON US! OUR PRISONERS SHOULD BE WORTH A DOZEN **WING-MAIDENS** ENSLAVED BY **AR-HAP!**

SOMEDAY THOSE REDSKINNED **PIRATES** WILL FEEL OUR **ANGER!**

ON MARS THERE IS NO WORD FOR "**FRIEND!**"

THE RED LORD **AR-HAP** IS **ANXIOUS** TO HAVE THE **PINK-SKIN.**

THAT MUST HAVE BEEN SOME **INSULT** HE GAVE THE **BARBARIANS!**

GULLIVAR, WE MUST PLOT **ESCAPE!**

NO, CHAK, I DON'T THINK SO. THEY'LL BE TAKING US TO **AR-HAP--**

--AND, IF MY **HEAD'S** ON RIGHT, **THAT'S** WHERE WE'LL FIND **HERU!**

YOU SERVE US WELL, CRINGING COWARDS!

FLY FROM US, VASSALS, AND ENJOY AN HOUR OF **FREEDOM--**

--UNTIL WE DECIDE TO TAKE IT FROM YOU **AGAIN!**

YOU ARE A **BLOATED** RACE, MONSTER! ONE DAY OUR **SWORDS** WILL PRICK THOSE UGLY **HIDES!**

ENOUGH, YOU CRAVEN SNAKES! YOU DO YOUR FAME LITTLE HONOR BY TREATING ME THIS WAY!

GULLIVAR, **HELP ME!**

YOUR FREAKISH ALLY LOOKS WELL IN THAT CAGE, EH? BUT HIS **SINGING** IS LESS THAN **PLEASING.**

TONIGHT THE MOONS **KISS**--- TONIGHT LORD **AR-HAP** SHALL KISS HIS **BRIDE**, WHICHEVER OF THE **YELLOW SAVAGES** HAS SURVIVED OUR **TEST--**

TONIGHT YOU ARE **ENTER-TAINMENT**--- YOUR DEATH SHALL MAKE US **SMILE**, **INSOLENT STRANGER!**

I WAS **BOUND** AND CLOSELY **GUARDED**--- MY MIND WORKED **FURIOUSLY**, BUT NOT FOR **CHAK'S** SAKE, NOR MY **OWN**---

-- I PLOTTED ONLY TO SAVE **HERU**---! BUT THE RED CREATURE'S WORDS BROUGHT AN **EERIE** FEELING--- A MIXTURE OF **HOPE** AND **TERROR**---



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CREATURES

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GULLIVAR
JONES--
WARRIOR of
MARS!

TWO WORLDS
TO WIN!



STERANKO

Stan Lee PRESENTS: **GULLIVAR JONES, WARRIOR OF MARS!**

I HAD THE WEIRDEST DREAM--I SAW MYSELF COMING HOME FROM THE NAM--WALKING UP MY PARENTS' DRIVE--HOW STRANGE IT SEEMED--! HOW FAR FROM THE MARS I WAS FORCED TO BATTLE! BUT NOW WAS NO TIME FOR DREAMING--HERU, MY GOLDEN PRINCESS, MUST BE RESCUED--AND, IF I COULD ARRANGE IT, MYSELF AS WELL--!

BEHOLD, THE PINKSKIN HAS SLAIN AR-HAP, OUR KING! I, JEN-IN, NOW COMMAND--

DESTROY HIM!

TWO WORLDS TO WIN!

WELL, THEY'VE ARRIVED IN THE NICK OF TIME, AS USUAL--

--BUT FOR ME IT'S THE **WRONG** NICK!

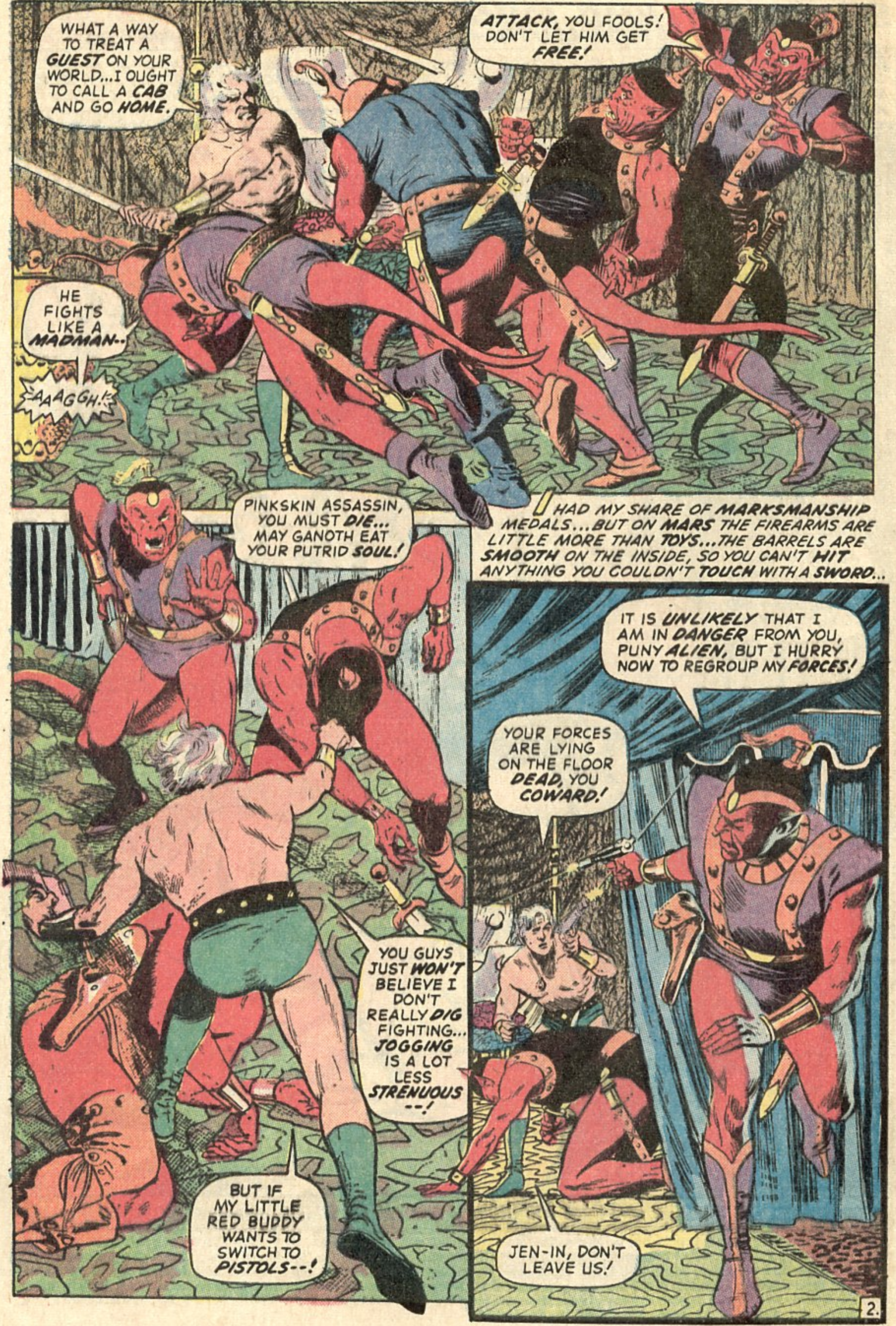
FLY, MAN OF EARTH, BEFORE MY **CRUEL SELF** WAKENS--AND REGAINS CONTROL!



Scan by Fett

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WHAT A WAY
TO TREAT A
GUEST ON YOUR
WORLD...I OUGHT
TO CALL A *CAB*
AND GO *HOME*.

ATTACK, YOU FOOLS!
DON'T LET HIM GET
FREE!

HE
FIGHTS
LIKE A
MADMAN...

AAAGGH!

PINKSKIN ASSASSIN,
YOU MUST *DIE*...
MAY GANOTH EAT
YOUR PUTRID *SOUL*!

I HAD MY SHARE OF MARKSMANSHIP
MEDALS...BUT ON MARS THE FIREARMS ARE
LITTLE MORE THAN TOYS...THE BARRELS ARE
SMOOTH ON THE INSIDE, SO YOU CAN'T HIT
ANYTHING YOU COULDN'T TOUCH WITH A SWORD...

IT IS *UNLIKELY* THAT I
AM IN *DANGER* FROM YOU,
PUNY *ALIEN*, BUT I HURRY
NOW TO REGROUP MY *FORCES*!

YOUR *FORCES*
ARE LYING
ON THE FLOOR
DEAD, YOU
COWARD!

YOU GUYS
JUST *WON'T*
BELIEVE I
DON'T
REALLY *DIG*
FIGHTING...
JOGGING
IS A LOT
LESS
STRENUOUS
--!

BUT IF
MY LITTLE
RED BUDDY
WANTS TO
SWITCH TO
PISTOLS--!

JEN-IN, DON'T
LEAVE US!

EVEN AS I SURVEYED THE CARNAGE, I HEARD THE VOICE OF AR-HAP'S STRANGE SECOND HEAD, THE VOICE OF HIS CONSCIENCE, PERHAPS--

YOU HAVE NO TIME TO **DELAY**, PINK MAN! SOON, **VERY SOON**, AR-HAP'S VICIOUS NATURE WILL **REAWAKEN!**

THERE'S A **LOT** THAT'S GOT TO BE **DONE**...HOW LONG DO I HAVE?

ALREADY I FEEL THE TERRIBLE **SLEEP** DULLING MY **THOUGHTS**...WHEN I **SURRENDER**, THE **BLOODLUST** OF AR-HAP WILL **RULE!**

I **KNEW** I HAD TO **HURRY**...BUT AS I TURNED TO GO, I SAW SOMETHING THAT MADE MY **BLOOD CHILL--**



GET HIM, WARRIORS!

THE ASSASSIN! SLAY HIM!



WHOK!
WITH NO TIME AND LITTLE DESIRE TO FIGHT FURTHER--



--I GRATEFULLY TOOK THE EASIER WAY OUT--!

QUICK, GRAB HIM!

BY PHRA'S SCALES, WHERE IS HE?



I WAS ON MY WAY, THAT'S WHERE!

YOU LOBSTERS THINK WAR'S JUST HACKING AND CUTTING.

ON EARTH WE'VE MADE AN ART OUT OF IT!

RUNNING THROUGH THE CAMP, I CAME UPON MY ALLY, CHAK, THE MUTANT WING-MAN--

THEY SURE HAVE YOU LOCKED UP LIKE A CANARY!

DON'T JOKE, PINK MAN, FOR ALREADY JEN-IN IS RACING AWAY WITH YOUR PRINCESS!

THEN WE'LL HAVE TO GET YOU DOWN THE FASTEST WAY WE CAN.

CHOKK!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING? STOP, OR I'LL--

I'VE SUFFERED INJURIES ENOUGH ON THIS JOURNEY--

-- AND NOW I LOSE MY DIGNITY, TOO.

DON'T WORRY, CHAK, THE ONLY AUDIENCE IS JEN-IN, AND HE'S RUNNING WITH HIS BACK TO US.

--FALL!

LIKE YOU SAID, NO TIME TO SOOTHE YOUR FEELINGS... COME ON!

WHUMP!

I GAVE THE PISTOL TO CHAK AND WE SET OUT IN PURSUIT--

WHILE, ELSEWHERE...

AR-HAP IS DEAD, AND I AM SOLE MASTER OF THE RED LIZARDMEN! YOU, INSOLENT GOLDEN PRINCESS, HAVE THE SPIRIT TO BE MY QUEEN, MOTHER OF A GREAT RACE OF WARRIORS.

IF YOU DRAG ME INTO THAT DESERT, YOU MONSTER, ALL YOU'LL HAVE IS MY CORPSE AND YOUR MAD RAVINGS!

THEY HAVE HEALED, MY FRIEND.

OUR AIR TRAVEL WILL BE SHORT! THERE THEY ARE!

THE PINK-SKIN COMES TO BATTLE OUR PLANET'S DESTINY!

NOW, ARE YOUR WINGS STRONG ENOUGH TO GET US OUT OF HERE?

GHAK AND I TOOK A MOMENT TO FIRE THE LIZARDMEN'S CAMP...SOON ALL WAS CONFUSION, AND WE ESCAPED UNNOTICED IN THE FIERY HOLOCAUST...

DO NOT APPROACH! THIS WOMAN WILL BE THE MOTHER OF A RED SOLDIER HORDE, AND THUS SHE IS HOLY!

IF YOU ATTACK, I SHALL CUT HER THROAT, AND HER DEATH WILL BE ON YOUR SOULS!

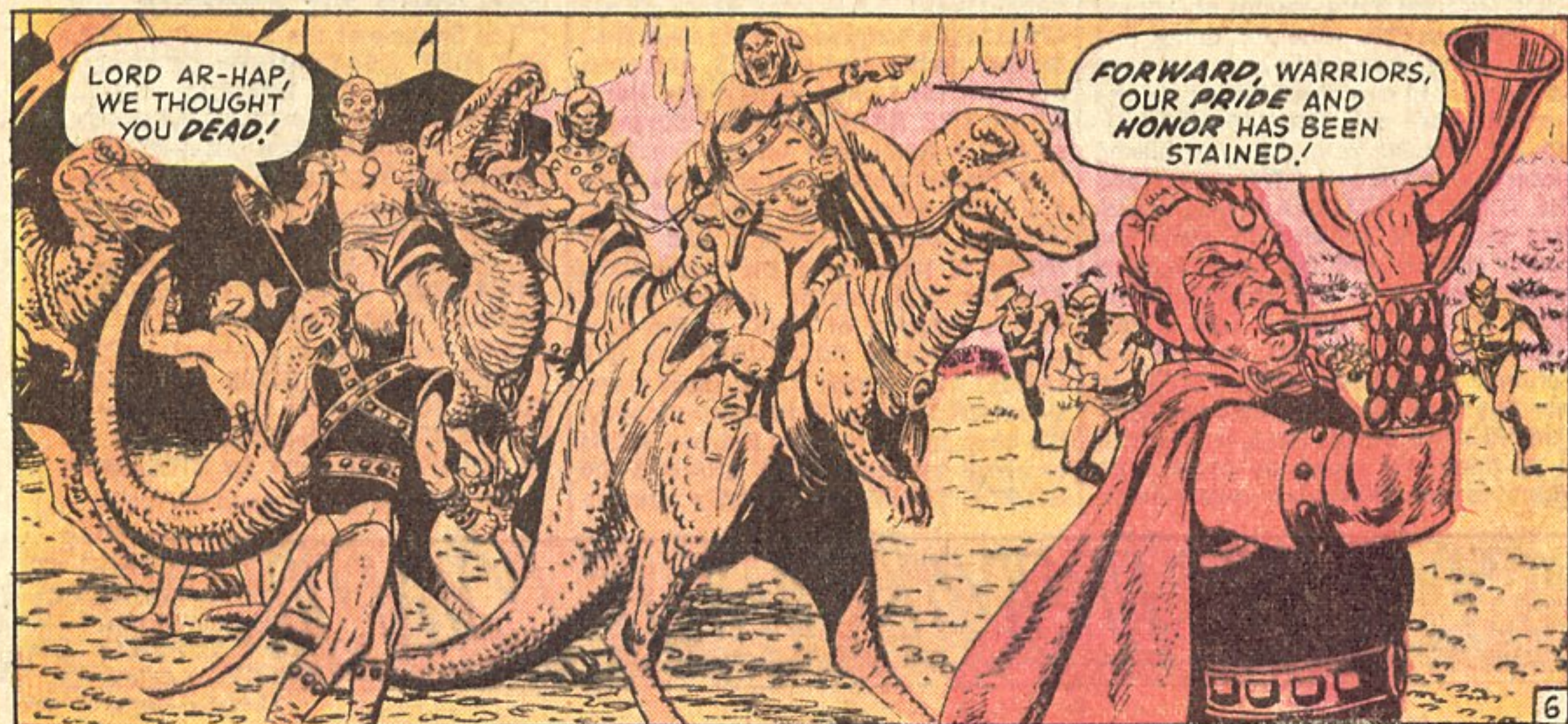
YOUR LOGIC IS AS BAD AS YOUR COURAGE!

THERE ARE TOO MANY PAWNS HERE FOR A STALEMATE, LIZARDMAN...

...SEE HOW THIS CHANGES THE SITUATION!

ZLAK!

GHAK'S SHOT WORKED ITS CHARM... I COULD ALMOST TASTE VICTORY... BUT WE HAD A LONG WAY TO GO YET...



WITH HERU MOUNTED ON JEN-IN'S ORDLUP, WE STRUCK OUT ONCE MORE ACROSS THE EERIE MARTIAN LANDSCAPE--

SO MUCH HAS HAPPENED, IN SO LITTLE TIME.

WE'VE GOT ENOUGH MATERIAL FOR YEARS OF FIRESIDE CHATS...

...BUT NOT NOW! WE HAVE TO MOVE!

MARS HELD AN AWESOME, NIGHT-MARISH BEAUTY... I LOOKED FORWARD TO THE LONG JOURNEY...WITH A TRUE FRIEND AND THE WOMAN I LOVED THE TRIP LOST SOME OF ITS HORRORS...

THERE, CHAK, LET'S HEAD FOR THAT MESA...

...THERE'LL BE SHELTER, AND TIME TO PLAN OUR MARCH.

WE CANNOT SEEK MY FOLK, GULLIVAR. I WAS **FORBIDDEN** TO RETURN TO THE TRIBE OF THE **HITHER** PEOPLE.

WE WOULD BE STONED TO **DEATH** BY MY TRIBE... I HAVE EVEN **LOST** MY BEAKMASK WHICH **DISGUISED** MY **DISFIGUREMENT**.

WELL, WE SURE CAN'T STAY WITH MY FATHER.

AND THEN I BEGAN TO REALIZE OUR TRUE SITUATION... ALONE, WITHOUT FOOD OR WATER, LOST ON A WORLD WHERE EVERY MAN WAS **HOSTILE**... SURELY HERU MUST CURSE THE HOUR SHE FIRST SAW ME...

GULLIVAR, MY STRANGE PRINCE OF ANOTHER **WORLD**, I SHALL NEVER UNDERSTAND THE **POWERS** THAT BROUGHT YOU TO ME, BUT I SHALL EVER BE **GRATEFUL**--

--WHATEVER YOUR **DANGER** YOU HAVE THOUGHT ONLY OF **ME**. NOW YOU SHALL DISCOVER THAT A PRINCESS OF THE GOLDEN BLOOD IS NOT A **STRANGER** TO **COURAGE**... WHERE YOU **LEAD**, I WILL **FOLLOW**, WITHOUT **FEAR**.

IT WAS THIS WONDERFUL PERSON, THIS BLESSING, THAT ALLOWED ME TO STAVE OFF THE MADNESS THAT GOVERNED NEARLY EVERYONE ON THAT LAWLESS WORLD--

MY PRINCE,
LOOK! WE
HAVE BEEN
FOLLOWED!



THAT
MUST BE
AR-HAP,
RIGHT ON
TIME--

--IT
LOOKS
LIKE WE
DIDN'T
QUITE
MAKE IT!

DON'T
DESPAIR,
BELOVED--

--WE STILL
LIVE!

I SHALL DEFEND
YOUR *BACK*, MY
FRIEND. IF THEY
WANT ONE, THEY'LL
GET A FIGHT!



AND A GOOD FIGHT IT WAS! MY SWORD AND MY FIST ACCOUNTED FOR A RESPECTABLE PILE OF LIZARDMEN... WHEN I PAUSED TO CHECK HERU'S SAFETY, CHAK CARRIED THE EXTRA BURDEN WITHOUT COMPLAINT...



AT ONE POINT I TURNED TO SEE HERU STOOPING OVER A FALLEN ENEMY... SHE TOOK THE BARBARIAN'S SWORD AND ADVANCED TOWARD THE FIGHT...

HERU,
STOP!
STAY
BACK!

THOUGH OUR
CULTURE IS
DECADENT, YET
SOME OF US
ARE STIRRED
BY THE CALL OF
DUTY AND
HONOR--!



BUT JUST
THEN...
FATE
TOOK A
HAND!

BUT WE'RE STILL TOO CHICKEN TO TELL YA WHAT IT MEANS!

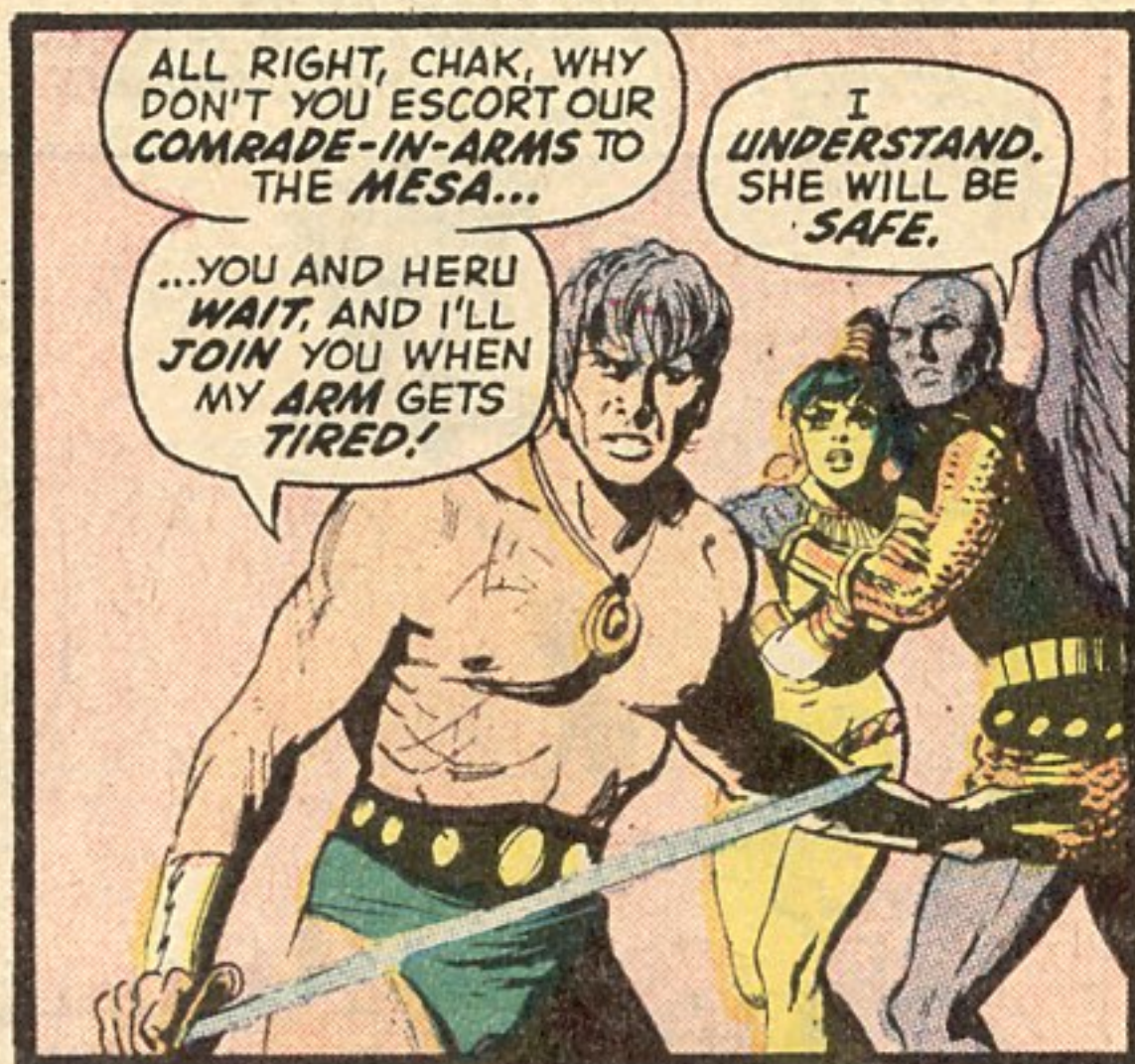


NOW, WINGED SCUM, **ATTACK! DESTROY THE ALIEN CREATURE!**

AR-HAP, DOOMED MONSTER, YOU **NEED** US NOW TO **SAVE YOUR LIFE.**

BUT ALL YOU'LL **GET** IS OUR **WRATH!**

THIS UNEXPECTED FORTUNE GAVE ME TIME TO PLAN--

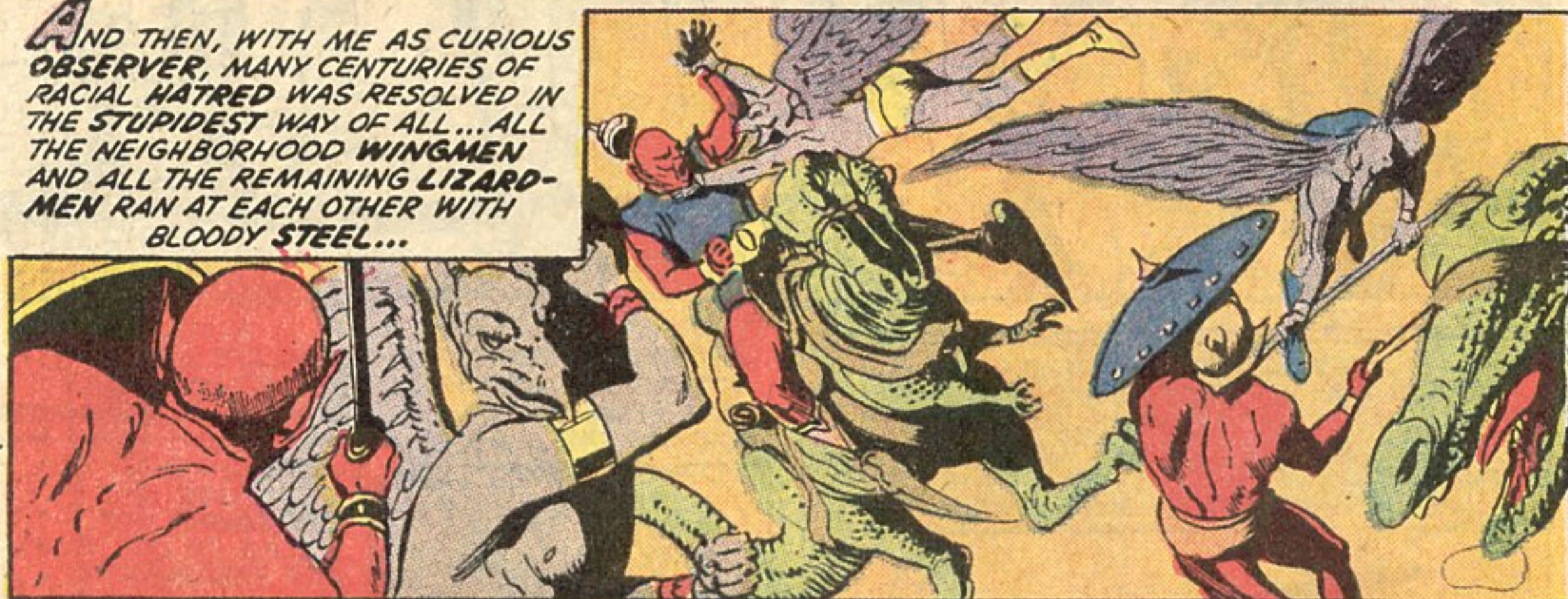


ALL RIGHT, CHAK, WHY DON'T YOU ESCORT OUR **COMRADE-IN-ARMS** TO THE **MESA...**

I **UNDERSTAND.** SHE WILL BE **SAFE.**

...YOU AND HERU **WAIT,** AND I'LL **JOIN** YOU WHEN MY **ARM** GETS **TIRED!**

AND THEN, WITH ME AS CURIOUS OBSERVER, MANY CENTURIES OF RACIAL HATRED WAS RESOLVED IN THE STUPIDEST WAY OF ALL... ALL THE NEIGHBORHOOD WINGMEN AND ALL THE REMAINING LIZARD-MEN RAN AT EACH OTHER WITH BLOODY STEEL...



AT LAST, THE WINGMEN TRIUMPHED... ONLY ONE RED MAN LIVED -- AR-HAP HIMSELF --



I'LL REVIVE AN OLD EARTH CUSTOM... YOU'RE A **COURAGEOUS** ENEMY, AR-HAP, THOUGH A **CRUEL** ONE --

-- I'LL LET YOU **LIVE,** AN **EXILE** ON YOUR OWN **WORLD.** IN MY CENTURY THE **BAD GUYS** WEREN'T SO **LUCKY.**

I **WATCHED** AR-HAP **WALK** AWAY, **BACK** TOWARD THE **RUINED** CAMP OF HIS **PEOPLE...**

YOU ARE **WEAK,** PINKSKIN. THIS WILL NOT SAVE YOU FROM MY **VENGEANCE.**

AND I THOUGHT OF HOW THIS CRAZY SOCIETY FORCED INDIVIDUALS AWAY FROM THE COMMUNITY, AGAINST THEIR WILLS... CHAK, HERU, AR-HAP, EVEN MYSELF -- COULD ANY OF US HAVE BEEN HAPPY NOW ON EARTH?

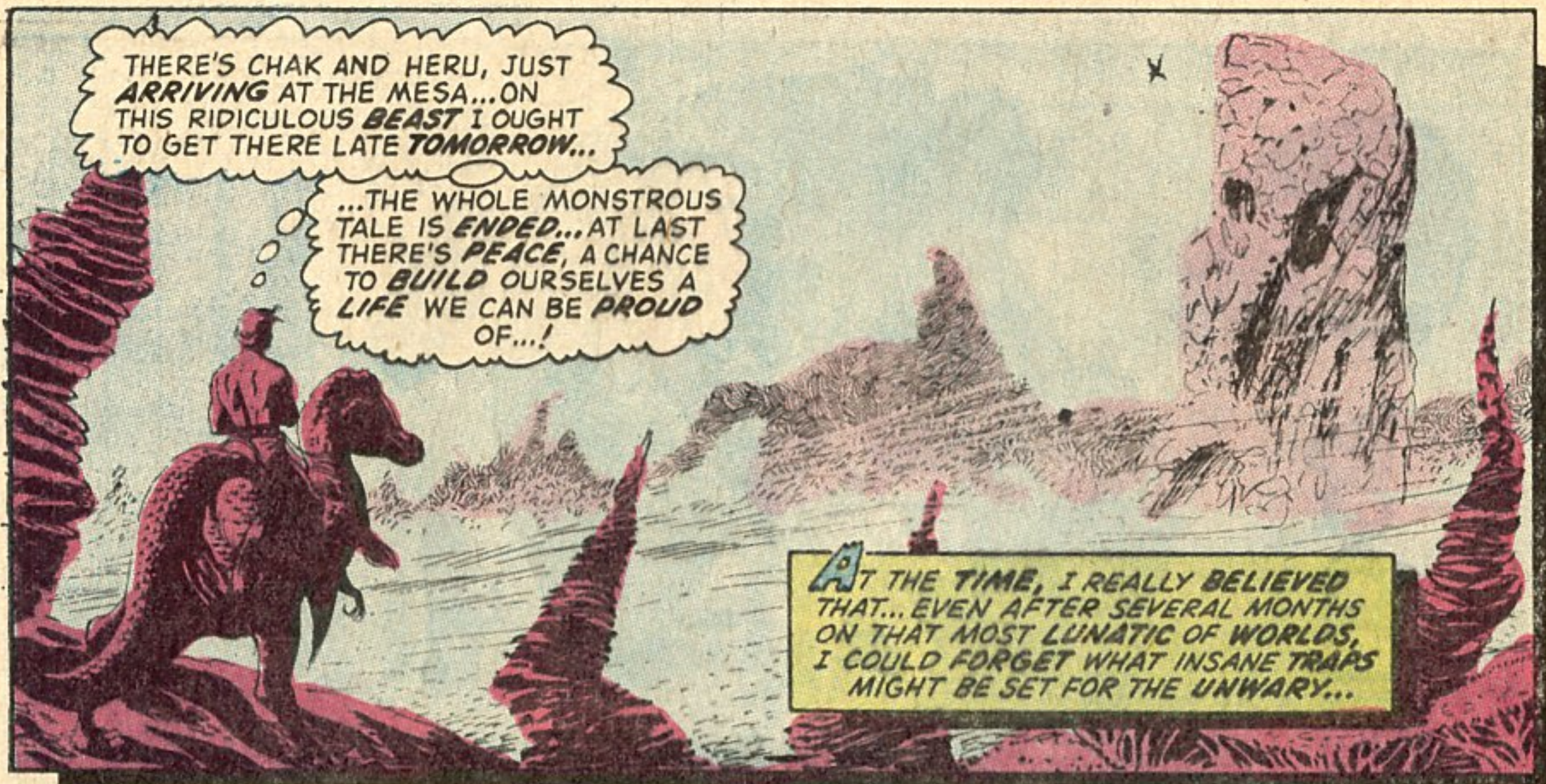


THE WINGFOLK PLEDGE **FRIENDSHIP,** PINKSKIN, THOUGH EVEN **NOW** WE CAN'T EXTEND A WELCOME TO **CHAK...**

...HIS BEAKLESS **OUTRAGE** IS A MATTER FOR THE **GODS.**

I **KNEW** WHAT SORT OF **GODS** THE MARTIANS **WORSHIPPED,** AND I **FELT** PITY FOR MY **ALLY...**

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



THERE'S CHAK AND HERU, JUST **ARRIVING** AT THE MESA...ON THIS RIDICULOUS **BEAST** I OUGHT TO GET THERE LATE **TOMORROW**...

...THE WHOLE MONSTROUS TALE IS **ENDED**...AT LAST THERE'S **PEACE**, A CHANCE TO **BUILD** OURSELVES A **LIFE** WE CAN BE **PROUD** OF...!

AT THE TIME, I REALLY BELIEVED THAT...EVEN AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS ON THAT MOST LUNATIC OF WORLDS, I COULD FORGET WHAT INSANE TRAPS MIGHT BE SET FOR THE UNWARY...

...**M**ARS WAS NOT EARTH...I HAD SEEN NOT SO MUCH AS ONE MILLIONTH OF THE BIZARRE WONDERS OF MY NEW HOME--



--**B**UT SOMEHOW I WAS LULLED INTO ACCEPTING A MOMENT'S REST, AND THINKING MY YEARS OF BATTLE WERE AT AN END...



...**B**UT EVERYONE HAS LEARNED THAT SUCH TREASURES AS PEACE AND LOVE MUST BE CONSTANTLY DEFENDED...

...I FELT THAT I HAD EARNED THIS RESPITE...OUR HAZARDOUS FUTURE WOULD TRY THE STUFF OF THREE BRAVE HEARTS, AND I WAS CONFIDENT WE'D ALWAYS DO OUR BEST...TOGETHER!

THUS ENDS OUR GLIMPSE INTO THE FANTASTIC, ALIEN WORLD THAT WAS MARS A BILLION YEARS BEFORE OUR OWN TIME. WHO KNOWS WHAT STRANGER SIGHTS AND DEADLIER PERILS LURK ON THAT DISTANT PLANET? GULLIVAR JONES KNOWS! IF YOU WANT MORE OF THE MYSTERY AND EXCITEMENT AS GULLIVAR EXPLORES HIS MAD PRISON...WELL, WRITE AND LET US KNOW!



JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT WE'VE RUN OUT OF TITLES--